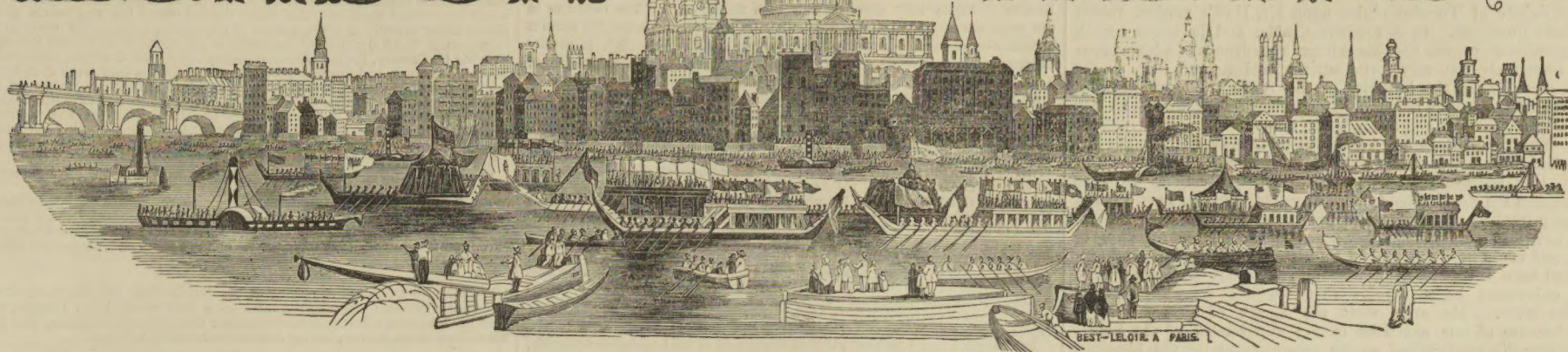


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.



No. 418.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1850.

[SIXPENCE. { WITH SUPPLEMENT GRATIS.

THE AFRICAN SQUADRON.

THE question of Slavery rages with its accustomed acrimoniousness in the New World, and threatens the dissolution of the greatest and most powerful Republic that ever existed. In the Old World the question of the Slave-trade is quite as embarrassing, though not likely in its solution to be productive of so much evil. The morality and religion of Great Britain, and of that portion of her children in America who derive their opinions from the teaching of the great minds of this country, condemn alike the iniquities of Slavery and the still greater horrors of the Slave-trade, and make light of all considerations of prudence and economy in comparison with what they consider the paramount and sacred duty of putting an end to these infamies. The American Abolitionists seem willing that the North and South should come to an open rupture; that the Union should be destroyed, and that a fierce internecine war should rage among the Republics, rather than that Slavery should not be immediately and summarily abolished. The enemies of the Slave-trade in England—or at least that portion of them who consider the question to be peculiarly their own—seem as willing as their friends in America to risk any kind of ruin rather than relax in their efforts to remove from the world the foul crime of Slave-dealing. So true it is that nothing is more pitiless than a theory; and that no man is more reckless than he who has but one idea, and that an ultra-philanthropic one.

The questions of slavery in America, and of the abolition of the Slave-trade throughout the world by Great Britain, ought not to be mere matters of theory. As questions for debate among logicians, they are easily enough settled. Slave-holding is unjustifiable—it is both a mistake and a crime. Slave-making is still more atrocious, and is, to all intents and purposes, even a worse crime than murder. But what then? Slavery exists, and the Slave-trade flourishes by the consent of many nations. They are both established facts, and cannot be wrought out like mathe-

matical problems. They touch the interests of men, and cannot, while men are men—and while wealth and position are real and tangible things, which their possessors will not peaceably renounce for the sake of a moral principle—be disposed of in a manner likely to give satisfaction to those who take no account of practical difficulties. Slavery and the Slave-trade are the scandal of our civilisation—the curse and stain of the modern world. It is desirable and just that they should be rooted out. None will palliate or defend them; but wise men must take care that, in combatting these evils and crimes, they do not, with the best intentions in the world, commit a greater amount of wrong, and cause a greater amount of suffering, than those which they are so anxious to remove.

Great Britain set a noble example to the world in the manumission of the slaves in her West Indian colonies. She had not only a perfect right to do as she did on that glorious occasion, but she had a sacred duty to perform. Every Englishman may well be proud of his country for the disinterested philanthropy, and the pure spirit of religion which dictated the sacrifice she made. But though Great Britain was right in that instance—and would have been right had she spent five times the twenty millions that it cost her to remove the taint of slavery from her possessions—the nations of the world may very naturally ask us by what right we claim to be the general redressers of the wrongs of the human race, and who constituted us more particularly the protectors of the African? Our right, in fact, is self-assumed. We are a strong, and we claim to be a pre-eminently moral and religious people. For these reasons, we have constituted ourselves the champions of freedom, and the foes of all who traffic in the blood and bones of their fellow-creatures. Two other great nations apparently unite with us upon this subject; but they join us grudgingly, and afford us no practical aid in the object which they and we profess to have in view. France and America look at our efforts with a feeling approaching to contemptuous pity for our excess of zeal, and leave

to us the whole cost and trouble. We blockade the coast of Africa, and have done so for years; we send our best sailors upon that service, and we spend the money of our pauperised and over-taxed people in defending the liberty of the Negroes, while France and America do not stir a finger in the business. They consider it our affair, not theirs; and they are only too happy when they hear that we make a failure of it.

The cost of this blockade of 4000 miles of the African coast established by England, though some people affect to consider the cost as nothing in a question like this, has been, up to the present time, about £25,000,000 sterling. The annual cost is about £1,000,000; and the blockade employs, on a moderate estimate, nearly one-fourth of the whole naval force of the country. If we could afford this splendid sacrifice—if this money were as nothing to us—and if we could expend it as freely and as prudently upon this humane and Christian object as a gentleman of fortune expends a few guineas in an annual donation to an orphan school, or in a gift towards the erection of a church, there would be only one question for the country to consider; viz. what effect we produced by our generosity, and whether, in fact, we accomplished the object we had in view? But when our finances are not prosperous, but most deplorably the reverse; when we groan under the weight of the most stupendous debt that was ever contracted since the world began; when to pay the interest of it we tax the sinews, the brains, the life of every individual in our nation; when under that oppressive weight pauperism and crime are yearly increasing with gigantic strides; when we are too poor to free the light of heaven from the demands of the tax-gatherer; when we cannot afford to give our ignorant population the benefit of untaxed knowledge and religion; and when every comprehensive project for the physical, moral, and intellectual elevation of the vast mass of our home population is set aside with a hopeless shrug of the shoulders by men in power, because there is no money that can be applied



LADY JOHN RUSSELL'S ASSEMBLY ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, AT DOWNING-STREET.—THE REFRESHMENT-ROOM.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

towards it;—then, indeed we think it is high time that the question of expense should be taken into our serious consideration, and that we should not only ask ourselves whether we can afford so large an outlay, but whether the outlay is not a total waste, effecting no good whatever;—whether, also, it does not create jealousy and ill-will and cause of quarrel between us and our lukewarm allies;—and whether it does not increase the horrors and atrocities of that very Slave-trade, which it is our avowed object to destroy.

The debate of Tuesday night, upon Mr. Hutt's motion, raised all these questions. In a temperate, able, and judicious speech that gentleman proved that the African squadron was a huge blunder, immensely expensive, and utterly useless; and that, so far from diminishing the intensity of the Slave traffic, it actually augmented it in all its horrors. The reply of the Minister to this masterly oration was singularly weak, unsatisfactory, and ineffective. Lord John Russell defended the present system because Mr. Hutt had not a better one to propose in lieu of it; and seemed to think, that, because we had entered upon this course, we were bound, lest the world should laugh at us, to continue in it, though it was proved by all impartial testimony to be a miserable failure. His Lordship was marvellously nonchalant upon the question of cost, and could not have spoken more haughtily on the motion if we had been without a debt, without a property-tax, and in the full enjoyment of a surplus that we did not know what to do with. He even went the length of saying that it was because of our exertions in the suppression of the Slave-trade that this country had so far prospered under the blessings of Heaven, as to have a margin of income over expenditure during the present year. He also warned us, that we should no longer have a right to look for a continuation of such a blessing, if we withdrew the African squadron! It is rather an unusual and a surprising thing to see a statesman like Lord John Russell in such a character. If this be, indeed, his Lordship's opinion (as we are bound to believe), it is high time that he should carry out his scruples in the matter of Slavery and the Slave-trade to their legitimate extent. If he believes that the favour of the Almighty will be withdrawn from us if we discontinue a blockade whose only results are the increased sufferings and agonies of the miserable Negroes whom we desire to befriend, and the pertinacious prosecution of the traffic in spite of our cruisers, he must believe it to be equally sinful to encourage Slavery and the Slave-trade by our profitable dealings, for slave-grown articles, with slave-making and slave-holding nations. To be consistent, he should absolutely prohibit Brazilian sugar; nay, he should go further—he should obstinately set his face against the slave-grown cotton of the United States, and not only doff his own calico shirt in favour of Irish linen, but compel the whole nation to do likewise.

We believe the feeling of the country to be so strong in this matter, that it would not begrudge the cost, although it reduced us to the verge of bankruptcy, if we really succeeded in so beneficent and sublime an object. But there does not appear to be a single individual who imagines we can do so, without a large addition to our force, and the adoption of concurrent measures of greater efficacy than any we have hitherto employed. What such measures are to be nobody knows. Even if the nation consented to double the strength of the African squadron—to blockade the whole of Africa, west, south, and east—to subsidize the African kings, and to buy them out of the traffic, it is a very doubtful question whether we should succeed in destroying the trade. To blockade effectually such an enormous line of coast, is more even than Great Britain can accomplish; and to subsidize the African kings would not necessarily cause them to be honest, or make them proof against the more enormous bribery of the slave-dealers of Brazil. The task is a noble one—no one will deny that; but the plain truth is, that it is beyond our power to accomplish by our naval force, however great, or our subsidies, however liberal. We but injure ourselves in a vain attempt, in which we confer no benefit upon a single human being. We cannot fight the Slave-trade after this fashion. Let us be content with setting the world a good example—with washing our own hands of the foul spot—with protesting against Slavery and the Slave-trade upon all befitting occasions, and with enlightening the nations upon the subject whenever we can do so. We are not in a position to attempt more. We may have the will, but we have not the power; and when we see that our good intentions have no other result than to increase our own burdens and augment the horrors of the traffic that we condemn, it is surely high time that we should learn the virtues of quietness and attention to our own business. The Minister has just now obtained a triumph, as far as votes are concerned, but it is a triumph which will not last. The doom of the African squadron is as plainly written as if the votes had been the other way. The cause cannot stand after such an exposure as was made by Mr. Hutt. If it could, such a defence as was made by Lord John Russell would be the death of it.

LADY JOHN RUSSELL'S ASSEMBLY.

LADY JOHN RUSSELL's third and last assembly of the present series, at the official residence of the Premier, in Downing-street, took place on Wednesday night, and, was honoured with the presence of upwards of 500 distinguished visitors.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge took opportunity to pay his respects to Lady John Russell on this occasion, arriving shortly before eleven o'clock, and remaining the guest of her Ladyship until midnight. His Royal Highness was attended by Baron Kneesebeck.

His Grace the Duke of Wellington and the gallant Lord Gough were both present, arriving from the United Service Club about eleven o'clock.

Among the members of the diplomatic circle present we remarked his Excellency the Turkish Ambassador, his Excellency the French Ambassador and Madame Drouyn del' Huys, his Excellency the Minister for the Netherlands, his Excellency the Swedish and Norwegian Minister, the Baroness Rehausen and Mademoiselle Chamier, his Excellency the American Minister and Mrs. and Miss Laurence, his Excellency the Portuguese Minister and Viscountess de Moncorvo, his Excellency the Bavarian Minister and the Baroness de Cetto, the Baroness Brunnow and Mdlle. Olga de Lechner, his Excellency the Prussian Minister and Madame Bunsen, his Excellency the Danish Minister and the Countess Reventlow, the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires, Baron Isola, Baron Moncorvo, Count Perponcher, Mr. Colquhoun, Mr. Davies, M. Mavescalché (secretary to the French Embassy), M. Sampaio (attaché to the French Embassy), le Commandeur de Marcollet (Nicaraguan Chargé d'Affaires), Chevalier De Horta and Madame De Horta, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bunsen, &c.

The company continued to arrive until nearly midnight, the guests setting down both at the garden entrance and in Downing-street as fast as the carriages could get up. The whole suite of saloons were thrown open on the occasion, and very brilliantly illuminated under the superintendence of Messrs. Sedgwick and Taylor.

It was nearly one o'clock before the party broke up.

CORFE CASTLE.—FURTHER DISCOVERY OF FOSSIL REMAINS AT ENCOMBE.—During last week an enormous tusk has been discovered, embedded in a stratum of loose gravel, measuring round the curve 7 feet 6 inches in diameter, or 1 foot 94 inches in circumference at the root. The enamel is perfect, about one-sixteenth thick; in other respects it is so decomposed that it will be difficult to preserve it entire. This interesting relic of past ages probably belongs to the *Elephas primigenius* of Blumenbach, *Elephas fossilis* of Cuvier, and mammoth of the Russians, or fossil elephant; the nature and position of the *debris* or drift exactly corresponding with the description given by geologists, in which the same kind of bones have invariably been found in various parts of England, and in other parts of the globe. On the other hand, the curvature is so great (forming an arc of from sixty to seventy degrees), that it might be said to resemble more the tusk of the *Dinotherium*, as restored by geologists, which curved downwards. Part of the horn of an antelope or deer and a huge leg-bone were also found near it, all of which seem to belong to a race of animals now extinct. The whole is being carefully preserved for the inspection of the Earl of Eidon. In viewing the improvements now in progress at this delightful spot, the visitor cannot but admire the taste displayed by the noble proprietor, and the work already completed reflects the greatest credit on those employed in the execution thereof.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The result of the return of the Socialist candidates at the Paris elections last week has been not only to cause a modification of the Ministry by the retirement of M. F. Barrot from the office of the Interior, and the appointment in his stead of M. Baroche, late Attorney-General, but also to set the President of the Republic and his Government upon devising schemes of repression, and for the preservation of the peace of society, so that the ultra-Democrats may not again be able to display their energies with such telling effect. The measures in contemplation are—a bill on the press, with the object of increasing the amount of caution-money and re-imposing the stamp duty; a bill on the jury, to modify the number of votes necessary to a verdict of guilty; a bill on electoral meetings; a bill having some resemblance to the Alien Act; and a bill on transportation.

On Wednesday morning M. Baroche, the Minister of the Interior, had an interview with several of the editors of Paris newspapers, on the subject of the first-mentioned measure to be introduced by the Government on the subject of the press. Among the gentlemen who attended the meeting were M. Bertin, the editor of the *Débats*; MM. Veron and Bolla, the editors of the *Constitutionnel*; M. de Lavalette, the editor of the *Assemblée Nationale*; M. Lubitz, the editor of the *Union*; and M. Chambolle, the editor of the *Ordre*. None of the conductors of the Republican papers were consulted. The tenor of the Government bill was stated to be that the caution-money to be deposited by journals in the hands of Government was to be raised from 24,000 francs to 50,000 francs for daily papers published in Paris, and to 12,000 francs for those published in the departments. Besides this, all papers were to be subjected to a stamp duty on each number published of four centimes, besides a postage to be levied on those passing through the post-office. With the exception of M. Bertin, who said he was indifferent as to the course to be taken by the Government, the editors all expressed their disapprobation of the measure.

None of these measures have yet been introduced to the Legislative Assembly, where they may be expected to raise a perfect storm. The arbitrary powers already possessed by Prefects are also to be extended.

The Stamp Duties were under discussion in the Assembly on Tuesday evening; and the debate proceeded very quietly, until the clause came under consideration which proposes to tax transfers of stock and treasury bills, when M. Ducos opposed it, upon the ground of a violation of the public faith. He said it was nothing less than a spoliation, and would raise a host of enemies against the Republic. It would alarm the foreign creditor, who would withdraw his capital, and thus public credit would suffer. The question was adjourned, and resumed at the sitting on Wednesday, when eventually it was carried by 400 against 232.

Accounts from Soissons, Arras, Lyons, Lisle, and Elbeuf describe manufacturing and commercial interests as having received a most serious check by the late elections.

The Prefect of the Allier has caused to be arrested several persons whom he has charged with political offences.

M. de Royer, Advocate-General at the Court of Appeal at Paris, has been appointed Attorney-General, in place of M. Baroche.

The departure of the Grand Duchess Stephanie, of Baden, aunt of the President of the Republic, was fixed for Friday (yesterday); and M. Louis Bonaparte intended, it was said, going with her as far as the frontier, and afterwards to visit the garrisons of the departments of the east.

The *Moniteur* announces that the President of the Republic has received a letter in which the Emperor of Russia notifies the birth of a Grand Duke, son of the Grand Duke Constantine.

ITALIAN STATES.

ROME.—The accounts from Rome state that there was every probability of the Pope's speedy return to the city immediately after Easter.

His Holiness has conferred decorations on several officers of the French navy. Admiral Casy has received the Grand Cross of the order of Pio Nono on account of the services rendered to the expedition to Rome by the port of Toulon, where Admiral Casy was in command at that period. Rear-Admiral Berard has been named Commander of the Order of Gregory the Great. The Austrians have as yet shown no disposition to approach the city.

NAPLES.—From Naples recent accounts state, that on the 9th inst. the municipality of that city presented to the King a petition, signed by 20,000 persons, praying that the constitution might be abolished by law, as it was *de facto*.

GREECE.

Accounts from Athens of the 8th inst. mention that Baron Gros, the French Envoy commissioned to effect a reconciliation between England and Greece, had had an audience of the King on the subject; and they mention a report that he had recommended the Greek Government to recognise the claims of England to indemnities for certain English and Ionian subjects, leaving the question of amount open to discussion. The Greek Government was said to be disposed to adopt the recommendation.

RUSSIA.

From St. Petersburg, under date of the 10th inst., we learn by a ukase from the Senate, that an agreement has been signed by the Chancellor of State, Count Nesselrode, and the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Prince Schwarzenberg, by which the Russian and Austrian Governments pledge themselves mutually to deliver up all Jewish subjects who shall enter the territory of either empire without a permit from their respective Governments.

Accounts from every part of the Russian empire speak of the remarkable state of the weather. The alternations of thaw and frost have been quite unusual, and severe as the winters in Russia generally are, the cold has been more intense this year than in the memory of man.

UNITED STATES.

Advices from New York to the 5th have come to hand. The news by this arrival, though interesting, is not of an important nature.

No business of consequence has as yet been accomplished in Congress, the attention of both Houses having been principally occupied with general discussions on the slavery question, and its relation to the new territories which seek for admission to the United States. It has been currently stated that Mr. Webster was about to propose a new plan of compromise, which would probably reconcile all differences, and bring the agitation of the exciting topic to a close. Mr. Webster is decidedly opposed to any further extension of slavery, and agrees in the main with the practical measures recommended in the President's Message. A large meeting, representing especially the commercial interests of the city, without distinction of political party, had been held in New York, in support of Mr. Clay's compromise resolutions. Over ten thousand persons were assembled in the spacious amphitheatre of Castle Garden. Great enthusiasm was expressed for the objects of the meeting, and the importance of the Union was set forth as of superior importance to the restriction of slavery.

M. Cabot, the founder of the Icarian Community at Nauvoo, has resigned the plenary authority entrusted to him by the contract of the colonists, and substituted in its place a regency of six members, to be elected annually. A modification in the constitution is proposed, bringing it into accordance with the democratic institutions of the United States. The election under the new arrangement took place Feb. 3, when M. Cabot was elected President of the Regency and of the Community.

A very serious fire had taken place at one of the cotton factories at Richmond, and was entirely destroyed. The loss was estimated at 100,000 dollars.

CANADA.

We have no news of interest from Canada. Parliament has been prorogued until the 3rd of April. The annexation excitement is somewhat on the wane. Colonel Prince, a member of the House, from Essex, had published a vigorous letter in favour of the independence of the colonies.

CALIFORNIA.

We have advices from California by the arrival of the steamer *Alabama* at New Orleans to the 15th of January, two weeks later than our last accounts. A disastrous inundation has taken place at Sacramento, overflowing the whole city, destroying immense herds of cattle and other property, and causing a loss of over 1,000,000 dollars. A party of Americans have been attacked at the mines near Stockton by a band of Chilian marauders. Several of the Americans were killed, and others taken prisoners, though subsequently released. The excitement caused by this outrage will probably result in the expulsion of all the Chilians from the mines. The steamer brought gold dust to New Orleans amounting to 500,000 dollars.

MEXICO.

Our latest advices from Mexico are to the 8th ult. General Thomas Murin has been appointed Commandant-General of Chiapas and Tabasco, in the place of General Hernandez, who has been obliged to resign in consequence of ill-health. The Indians still continue their destructive incursions, although they have lately suffered two effectual repulses in the states of Durango and St. Leon, losing thirty-four of their number and several of their prisoners. According to the current rumour, the charges against Santa Anna by the senator Gamboa were to be submitted to a grand jury, the distinguished exile being eager to return to his country, and great exertions are making in his behalf by his friends.

A meeting was held at Brownsville, opposite Matamoras, on the 2nd ult., to protest against the claim of Texas to sovereignty over the country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, and to demand for it an independent territorial organisation. A convention is proposed for the 16th of March, consisting of delegates from the several counties and from the unorganised portions of the territory, to establish a Provisional Government until the claims of the people can be urged before Congress by a delegation for the purpose. An opposition meeting took place on the same spot on the 5th ult., which passed resolutions asserting the right of Texas to the territory in question.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Accounts from the Cape to the 12th of January, which have been received this week, supply little intelligence of novelty. No change had taken place in the condition of the colony; the *Neptune* remained in the bay; and the Anti-Convict Associations continued their opposition to the threatened measures of Earl Grey. The inhabitants were looking with great anxiety for the final order of his Lordship, some with hope, others with fear. The most ardent opposers of the Colonial Secretary's scheme urged the indispensable necessity of avoiding all violence or disorder, at the same time recommending a quiet and determined moral resistance, until the objects they had in view should be fully realised.

INDIA.

Advices in advance of the Overland Mail arrived in town on Thursday afternoon. The dates are—from Bombay, of February 16; Calcutta, February 8; and Madras, February 13.

The most important feature of the news now received is an account of a mutiny which broke out in the 66th Bengal Native Infantry, stationed at Umritsir. The event was not altogether unexpected, for some symptoms of disaffection had previously appeared among a portion of the troops, who had been punished accordingly. The cause of dissatisfaction was the reduction of the Scinde batta, which, they alleged, oppressed them, being at a great distance from home, and the food being at high prices. Major Troup, their commanding officer, kindly remonstrated with them, but to no effect. Resistance was evidently determined upon, and the Major ordered one of the ringleaders to be placed under arrest. A great part of his comrades immediately went to his rescue, when the Major ordered his troops to pile their arms. Colonel Bradford, with the 1st Cavalry, having just fortunately arrived at Umritsir, commanded his men to mount, and proceeded to enter the fort, when they were stopped by the mutineers, who endeavoured to close the gate; but Captain Macdonald, the officer on duty, drew his sword, drove the rebels away, and admitted Colonel Bradford's troops. The disobedient were marched out of the fort, a court-martial was immediately ordered, and should they be found guilty—of which there can be no doubt—they will receive the heaviest punishment the court can inflict.

In all other parts of India tranquillity prevailed. The troops were generally in good health, except at Mooltan.

The first portion of the force intended for operations against the Sikkim Rajah left Darjeeling on the 27th of January. The remainder of the troops were to follow immediately. Sir T. E. M. Burton, late Ecclesiastical Registrar at Calcutta, has been sentenced to imprisonment for two years under the penal clause of the Insolvent Act.

CHINA.

We learn from China, under date Jan. 30, that the head and the hand of the Governor of Macao (Amaral), murdered some time since by the Chinese, had been given up to the Portuguese authorities; three Chinese prisoners, who had been taken at the Barrier, having been surrendered in exchange.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

THE COUNTESS OF SCARBOROUGH.

ANNA MARIA, Countess of Scarborough, widow of John, seventh Earl, died on the 17th inst., aged 84. Her Ladyship was daughter of Julian Herring, Esq. She married Lord Scarborough in 1785, and has left surviving issue one son, John, present Peer; and two daughters, Louisa-Frances, wife of the Rev. Thomas Cator; and Henrietta-Barbara, married first to the Rev. Frederick Manners Sutton, and secondly to John Lodge Ellerton, Esq.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL DURNFORD.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL ELIAS WALKER DURNFORD, of the Royal Engineers, was the son of the late Colonel Elias Durnford, of the same corps, who was Lieutenant-Governor at Pensacola, and who commanded the Royal Engineers under Sir Charles Grey at the taking of the West Indies, in 1794. Elias Durnford, the son, the subject of this notice, acted at that period under his father, as a Lieutenant. From that grade he rose, through much hard service, to the rank of Lieutenant-General.

This gallant officer died at his residence, Tunbridge Wells, on the 8th inst. A brother of his, Lieut.-Col. Philip Durnford, died from fever whilst in command of the Royal Artillery, in Jamaica. Another brother is the only one now surviving: he, also, is a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Royal Artillery.

WILLIAM RAMSAY RAMSAY, ESQ., OF BARNTON, IN MID-LOTHIAN. This gentleman, formerly M.P. for Mid-Lothian, was son and heir of the late George Ramsay, Esq., of Barnton, by Jean his wife, second daughter of Robert Hamilton, Lord Belhaven. He was born 29th May, 1809, and married, 4th August, 1828, the Hon. Mary Sandilands, only daughter of Lord Forphichen, by whom he leaves a son and successor, Charles William. Mr. Ramsay possessed, besides the Barnton estate, the lands of Bannockburn and Sauchie, county Stirling. He died on the 4th inst., at Barnton.

SIR THOMAS MARRABLE, KT.

This gentleman, who was secretary to the Board of Green Cloth in the Lord Steward's department of the Royal household, received Knighthood in 1840, after thirty-four years' service at Court.

Sir Thomas was second son of the late John Marrable, Esq., of Canterbury, and married the daughter of William Breach, Esq., of Sloane-street. His death occurred a few days ago.

DR. BOYRENSON.

This gentleman, a physician in the Hon. East India Company's Service, and attached to the Bombay army, may be remembered as having been instrumental, by his courage and energy, in saving many lives when the *Great Liverpool* was wrecked, in March, 1846, off the coast of Corunna (which sad occurrence was related and illustrated at the time in this paper). Dr. Boyrenson died of jungle fever, at Kaira, Bombay, on the 6th January last, much and deservedly regretted.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1851.

The following points of principle have been decided by her Majesty's Commissioners, in answer to inquiries made by the Local Committee for the City of London:—

1. Juries will be selected to award the prizes; but no competitor for a prize in any section will be allowed to act upon a jury to award the prizes in that section.
2. It is not intended to require of exhibitors that they should of necessity be subscribers.
3. It is not intended to exclude any person, whether he be the manufacturer, designer, inventor, or proprietor, of any article, from exhibiting it, whatever may be the regulations under which he may hereafter be required to do so.
4. Some misunderstanding having arisen from the use of the words "counting-houses" in the building prospectus issued by the Commissioners, they intend only to have such offices as will be required for taking money at the doors, distributing tickets, selling catalogues, and conducting the other business of the Exhibition, and not offices for the sale of articles exhibited. The object of the Exhibition is the display of the articles intended to be exhibited, and not the transaction of commercial business; and the Commissioners can therefore give no facilities for the sale of articles, or for the transaction of business connected therewith.

(Signed) J. SCOTT RUSSELL,
STAFFORD H. NORTHCOTE.

On Wednesday evening a public meeting, numerously and respectfully attended, and having for its object the formation of a local committee to aid the Royal Commissioners in carrying out the Exhibition, was held at the King's Arms, Kensington; the Right Hon. W. S. Lancelles, M.P., in the chair. On the platform were Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P.; the Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, M.P.; J. Macgregor, Esq., M.P.; the Rev. Archdeacon Sinclair, and several gentlemen of influence in the locality. There was also a large attendance of ladies. Lord Robert Grosvenor, in moving the first resolution, affirming the tendency of the proposed exhibition to promote the arts, sciences, agriculture, and trade of this country, expressed his belief that the forthcoming exposition would bring such a concentration of arts and manufactures before the view of all classes in this country, as would tend materially to elevate the national character in matters of taste. Mr. M. Gibson stated his belief that the intended exposition would not only elevate the moral character of the community, but refine its tastes for the arts and sciences. England might excel in her fabrics, but that taste in which she was deficient would undoubtedly be promoted by contact with the minds of other nations. But the Exhibition would be of importance in relation to our laws taxing the raw material. For instance, our inferiority to foreign countries in the manufacture of glass he could not attribute to any want of ability, but to the injurious influence of our former Excise regulations with respect to that article. The glass duty was now repealed, and the forthcoming exposition would tend to show how many of our Excise regulations were injurious to the exhibition of taste and ingenuity in our manufactures. (Hear, hear.) The secretary then read a list of subscriptions already raised in Kensington and its neighbourhood, from which it appeared that nearly £200 had been received for the promotion of the exhibition. Other resolutions, in furtherance of the objects of the meeting, and for forming the proposed local committee, were then passed unanimously; and, after a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting separated.

STRANGE VISITORS IN AN ASSIZE COURT.—On Thursday week, Mr. Selby Lowndes, who sat as high sheriff at the Aylesbury Assizes, had, it seems, directed his huntsman to bring his hounds to the White Hart Inn at Aylesbury, in order to treat his hunting friends with a bye day at Aston Abbots, immediately after the assizes. The White Hart Inn yard, in which the hounds were placed, is close to the court where the sheriff was sitting, and, owing to some disturbance in the court, the sheriff was repeatedly obliged to call "Silence!" which he did with his strong and powerful voice in good earnest. The call was heard by his faithful hound Silence, who at length broke through the paling and rushed into the court, where his master, the sheriff, was sitting, with the whole pack at his heels. The assize trumpeter was requested to blow, but his metre was not attended to, the hounds would not quit the court for him, nor did they till their master, the sheriff, called them together, and, to the amusement and satisfaction of the court, took them, in the style of a thorough good huntsman, to a place of safety. All business was suspended till the worthy sheriff returned to the court.—*Northampton Mercury*.

A NUMISMATIC TREASURE.—A cabinet of coins has been presented, during the last week, by Mr. Beaufoy, to the Corporation of London. It contains nearly 1000 pieces, bearing date between the years 1648 and 1675. They were issued by various traders of the City of London, partly to accommodate the public and supply the want of small change when the Government put forth no copper moneys, and partly as a means of advertisement, the name, residence, and sign of the house being generally found upon each coin. They consist of various metals—iron, lead, zinc, brass, and copper, and a few are of leather; and, independently of their value as curiosities of two centuries back, they will furnish, when the index is completed, a record of the topography and history of the city of London at that period, with the names of streets and localities long lost to the present generation.

COURT AND HAUT TON.

THE COURT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

Her Majesty and the Prince Consort during the past week have graced both the Royal Italian Opera and Her Majesty's Theatre with their presence. The first visit was made to the Royal Italian Opera, on Saturday evening, on which occasion her Majesty and the Prince were accompanied by their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal. Retracing the movements of the Court, we should mention that, subsequently to our last impression, her Majesty and the Prince, with the Royal children, have visited the New Palace at Westminster, inspecting during their stay the New House of Commons, the Centre Hall, St. Stephen's Hall, the Peers' Library, and the frescoes now in progress of execution.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Princess Royal, the Duchess of Kent, the ladies and gentlemen of the court, and the domestic household, attended divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Rev. Gerald Wellesley officiated.

On Monday (the birthday of her Royal Highness the Princess Louise), the Duchess of Kent paid an early visit to her Majesty, at Buckingham Palace. Lord John Russell had an audience of the Queen during the morning; and in the evening her Majesty had a dinner party, the company at which included her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Lady Fanny Howard, Baroness de Speth, the Marquis and Marchioness of Douro, the Dowager Lady Lytton, Sir George Couper, Captain Francis Seymour, and Mr. Birch.

On Tuesday, her Majesty and the Prince took their accustomed early walking exercise, accompanied by the Royal children. Prince Albert also rode out on horseback. In the evening the Queen and her Royal Highness honoured Her Majesty's Theatre with their presence.

On Wednesday, the Queen and Prince Albert took a drive in an open carriage and four. In the evening her Majesty had an evening party, the company at which included the Duchess of Kent, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Chevalier Bunsen, the Marquis and Marchioness of Douglas, the Earl Granville, Count Perponcher, the Right Hon. Henry and Mrs. Labouchere, &c. The Queen afterwards gave a concert in the saloon. Herr Fornes was the principal vocal performer, and Mrs. Anderson presided at the pianoforte.

On Thursday the Queen walked in the garden at Buckingham Palace. Her Royal Highness the Prince Consort rode out on horseback during the morning, and in the evening dined with the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House. The Duchess of Sutherland and Lady Constance Leveson Gower, the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Earl Spencer, and Viscount Jocelyn, had the honour of dining with the Queen.

Yesterday (Friday) the Queen held a Privy Council at Buckingham Palace.

The Earl of Morley has relieved Lord Dufferin in his duties as Lord in Waiting to the Queen. Mr. R. Ormsby Gore has relieved Sir Edward Bowater in his duties as Groom in waiting to her Majesty.

THE PRINCE CONSORT'S LEVEE.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert held a levee, by desire of her Majesty, on Wednesday afternoon, in St. James's Palace.

His Royal Highness arrived shortly before two o'clock, attended by his suite, from Buckingham Palace, and was received by the Lord Chamberlain, the Master of the Horse, the Treasurer of the Household, the Vice-Chamberlain, and the Comptroller of the Household. In attendance on the Prince were the Earl of Morley, Lord in Waiting to the Queen; Mr. R. Ormsby Gore, Groom in Waiting; Lord Alfred Paget (Clerk Marshal), Equerry in Waiting; Messrs. Gordon and Forbes, Pages of Honour to her Majesty. His Royal Highness was also attended by Viscount Clifden, Private Secretary; Captain Francis Seymour (in waiting); Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Hugh Seymour, and Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Alexander Gordon, Equerries to the Prince; and Major General Godwin, Gentleman Usher to his Royal Highness in Waiting.

Her Majesty's Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms lined the entrances in the State Saloons. Her Majesty's Body Guard, under the command of Capt. Phibbs, was on duty in the Palace as usual. His Serene Highness Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and a very large circle of noblemen and gentlemen, attended the levee. General Santa Cruz had an audience of the Prince to present his credentials to the Queen as Minister Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Bolivia. The diplomatic circle were first introduced, when the following presentations took place:—

Lieutenant Quentin, of the Hanoverian Hussar Guards, by the Baron Köller, for Count Kielmassegg.

Senor Ribaqueiro, Secretary of the Bolivian Legation, by General Santa Cruz.

The general presentations were very numerous, and among the names recorded by the *Court Newsman* we observe those of Mr. Brunel, the eminent engineer; and of Captain Ibbotson, the latter on his appointment as Aide-de-Camp to the Inspector General of Cavalry.

Previously to the levee, Lord John Russell and Viscount Palmerston were honoured with audiences by the Prince Consort.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent left her residence at Clarence House, St. James's, on Thursday morning, for Frogmore. Her Royal Highness honoured the Royal Italian Opera with her presence on Thursday evening.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge left town on Saturday last, on a visit to the Duke of Rutland, at Belvoir Castle. The Duchess of Cambridge had preceded his Royal Highness to the same destination on Friday last. Their Royal Highnesses returned to town on Wednesday.

The Count and Countess de Neuilly and the Duke and Duchess de Nemours visited her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent on Saturday, at Clarence House, St. James's.

His Serene Highness Prince Frederick of Hesse has left the residence of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge at Kew, for the Continent.

The Duke of Wellington attended the early service on Sunday in the Chapel Royal, St. James's. The Rev. Dr. Wesley officiated and preached the sermon. The Duke of Manchester, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of St. Germans, the Earl of Powis, and Lord Gough were among the nobility present at the chapel on Sunday.

The Duke and Duchess of Leeds and Miss Lane Fox have arrived at the Clarendon Hotel from Yorkshire.

The Earl of Carlisle had a dinner party on Saturday, at his residence in Grosvenor-place. The company included the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl and Countess Granville, Lord and Lady John Russell, Lord and Lady Overstone, Sir James and Lady Graham, Mr. C. Greville, Mr. Ord, Mr. Ogle, Mr. Loch, Capt. Peel, the Countess of Carlisle, Lady Mary Howard, and Mr. Charles Howard.

Viscount Palmerston entertained the Cabinet Ministers at dinner on Wednesday evening.

The Earl Fitzwilliam and the Ladies Wentworth Fitzwilliam arrived at Mortimer House, Halkin-street, on Wednesday last, from Pan, in the south of France, and have since left town for Milton Park, Northamptonshire.

The Earl of Fortescue, who is at present at Malta for the benefit of his health, has resigned the office of Lord Steward of her Majesty's Household, and the Marquis of Westminster has been appointed to the post.

Her Majesty's honourable corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms had their first mess dinner this season on Wednesday.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—In the lower or large model room at the Society's house, in the Adelphi, has just been opened a very interesting exhibition of specimens of recent British manufactures, received in competition for the Society's special prizes, a notice of which we are compelled to defer till next week.

ENTERTAINMENT TO VISCONT GOUCH AT THE UNITED SERVICE CLUB.—On Wednesday the members of the United Service Club gave an entertainment to General Viscount Gough, at their club house in Pall-mall, in celebration of the return of that veteran from the East. The banquet was served in the grand saloon, on the ground-floor, which was so arranged as to form one superb dining-room, capable of affording seats for upwards of 200 guests. This extent of accommodation was rendered absolutely necessary from the very large number of members of the club desirous of testing their respect for the noble and gallant Viscount by being present at the entertainment. The tables, when laid out, presented a magnificent appearance. Upon the cross table, at which the principal guests sat, was a superb gilt plate, on which were placed two very elegant pieces of plate, representing military subjects, and immediately behind the chair was a buffet of gold plate, of great value, which had a very grand effect. The company began to assemble at seven o'clock. The Duke of Wellington was among the earliest arrivals, and the gallant Duke was very shortly followed by the veteran guest of the day, who, upon entering the reception saloon, was very warmly greeted by the officers present. All the guests were attired in full-dress uniform. Dinner was served at a quarter to eight o'clock. General Sir James Macdonnell officiated as president, and having upon his right Lord Gough, and upon his left the Duke of Wellington. To the right of Lord Gough, at the cross table, sat, in the order mentioned—Sir Charles Malcolm, the Marquis of Anglesey, the Chairman of the East India Company; the Earl of Stafford, Sir Charles Ogle, Sir Colin Halkett, Sir Charles Adam, Sir C. Smith, Sir J. Lushington, Sir Samuel Pym, Sir John Macdonald, and Sir J. C. Coghill. To the left of the Duke of Wellington were—the Earl de Grey, the Right Hon. Fox Maule, M.P., the Deputy Chairman of the East India Company; Viscount Hardinge, Sir William Lumley, the Marquis of Thomond, the Earl of Roden, Sir Alexander Duff, Sir J. Doreton, Sir George Murray, Sir J. Adam, Sir Edmund Lyons, and Sir Andrew Barnard. Sir Charles Smith, Sir Alexander Duff, Lieut.-Col. Malcolm, and Capt. G. Loch, R.N., officiated as vice presidents. There were about 200 noblemen and gentlemen present. Lord Gough, in returning thanks for his health had been drunk, expressed his great gratification in receiving so satisfactory a compliment from the noble company around him. He specially thanked Lord Hardinge, and adverted in terms of commendation to the great services of that gallant Lord in India. The Duke of Wellington, in speaking to a toast, also complimented Lord Hardinge, who, with Lord Gough, had so ably supported the military character of their country. The noble Duke was much cheered on resigning his seat. The chairman then gave, "The Master of the Ordnance," to which the Marquis of Anglesey replied. The health of Lord Hardinge and other toasts followed. The meeting separated at a late hour.

THE GORHAM CASE.

We permitted ourselves last week only to remark that the decision in the Gorham case was of vital importance; and we only propose, in again referring to it, to keep our readers acquainted with the steps taken in regard to it. It appears impossible that the question can rest where it is; and without joining either party, we shall make it our business to report what is done by both. The party represented by Mr. Gorham is satisfied and quiet. It will only, probably, be roused into activity by the activity of its opponents. All that Mr. Gorham has done is to carry into the Arches Court the remission under seal from the Court of the Judicial Committee; and to obtain from the Arches Court a motion to the registrar of the Bishop of Exeter to transmit the original presentation to the court, for the purpose of carrying out the sentence pronounced by the Judicial Committee.

The other party being disappointed and aggrieved, is more active. The Bishop of Exeter, it is said, will refuse to give effect to the decision of the Privy Council, and he has announced a pamphlet on the subject. When it is published, we shall make its contents known to our readers. An address has been presented to him by a number of influential clergymen and laymen of London, expressing their sympathy with his views, and praising his conduct. In his answer to the address, directed to Dr. Spry, he says, "It seems that we are yet only in the commencement of the fight of faith appointed to us; and he recommends the 'utmost endeavours to stay the impetuous spirit of those who may be tempted in this new need to desert the Church in which they were in baptism made members of Christ, and in which that holy spirit of whom we were then born still dwells.' The Bishop would seem, from that, prepared to fight the fight of faith to the uttermost, which has been commenced.

His recommendation to stay "impetuous spirits" may have reference to the proceedings of the Rev. George Anthony Denison, Vicar of East Brent, and of some others. That gentleman, on March 10th, in the presence of the churchwardens and other witnesses to his act, delivered his solemn protest against the "state of the law, which empowers the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council to take cognizance of matters of doctrine," and "warning all the Christian people of his parish from being moved or influenced thereby in the slightest degree." To this subject Mr. Hume called the attention of Lord John Russell on Monday, when the noble Lord said that he had received a letter from Mr. Denison, stating that he "did not deny that the Queen's Majesty is the supreme governor of the Church and Realm," but he conceives that "the constitution does not attribute to the Crown, without a synod lawfully assembled, the right of deciding a question of doctrine," which the Privy Council had "indirectly and unequivocally done." The noble Lord stated, also, that the Government was not prepared to take any steps with regard to these protests.

The Rev. J. Lincoln Galton, vicar of Cubington, near Leamington, with the full consent of the Rev. G. Leigh Cooke, Rural Dean, read a protest against the decision in the parish church of Cubington, on the 17th inst. The Rev. John Bartholomew, Archdeacon of Barnstaple, has, in an address to the clergy, declared "the decision unsatisfactory." A meeting of clergy was held on the 19th inst., to "take measures to obtain a general protest on the part of the Church against the interference of the Privy Council in matters of a purely spiritual character. A petition to the Queen, to convoke a general synod, was adopted and numerous signed. From that meeting emanated, we believe, a series of resolutions, which have been published in most of the morning journals. They set forth—and we give the resolutions nearly entire, with the names of the subscribers—both their doctrine and the course they are likely to adopt.

1. That the Church of England will eventually be bound by the sentence, unless it shall openly and expressly reject the erroneous doctrine sanctioned thereby.

2. That the remission of original sin to all infants in, and by the grace of, baptism is an essential part of the article, "One baptism for the remission of sins."

3. That to omit other questions raised by the said sentence—such sentence, while it does not deny the liberty of the Church, does so in the sense heretofore received, does equally sanction the assertion that original sin is a bar to the right reception of baptism, and is not remitted except when God bestows regeneration beforehand by an act of prevenient grace (whereof Holy Scripture and the Church are wholly silent), thereby rendering the benefits of holy baptism altogether uncertain and precarious.

4. That to admit the lawfulness of holding an exposition of an article of the creed contradictory of the essential meaning of that article is, in truth and in fact, to abandon that article.

5. That, inasmuch as the faith is one, and rests upon one principle of authority, the conscious, deliberate, and wilful abandonment of the essential meaning of the article of the creed destroys the divine foundation upon which alone the entire faith is propounded by the Church.

6. That any portion of the Church which does so abandon the essential meaning of an article of the creed, forfeits not only the Catholic doctrine in that article, but also the office and authority to witness and teach as a member of the universal Church.

7. That, by such conscious, wilful, and deliberate act, such portion of the Church becomes formally separated from the Catholic body, and can no longer assure to its members the grace of the sacraments and the remission of sins.

8. That all measures which, in the present legal position of the Church ought to be taken without delay to obtain an authoritative declaration by the Church of the doctrine of holy baptism impugned by the recent sentence; as, for instance, by praying license for the Church in convocation to declare that doctrine, or by obtaining an act of Parliament to give legal effect to the decisions of the collective Episcopate on this and all other matters purely spiritual.

9. That, failing such measures, all efforts must be made to obtain from the said Episcopate, acting only in its spiritual character, a re-affirmation of the doctrine of holy baptism impugned by the said sentence.

H. E. MANNING, M.A., Archdeacon of Chichester.

ROBERT J. WILBERFORCE, M.A., Archdeacon of the East Riding.

THOMAS THORP, B.D., Archdeacon of Bristol.

W. H. MILL, D.D., Regius Professor of Hebrew, Cambridge.

E. B. PUSEY, Regius Professor of Hebrew, Oxford.

JOHN KEBBLE, M.A., Vicar of Hursley.

W. DODSWORTH, M.A., Perpetual Curate of Christ Church, St. Pancras.

WILLIAM J. E. BENNETT, M.A., Perpetual Curate of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge.

HENRY WILLIAM WILBERFORCE, M.A., Vicar of East Farleigh.

RICHARD CAVENTISH, M.A.

EDWARD BAILEY, M.A., Barrister-at-Law.

JAMES R. HOPE, D.C.L., Barrister-at-Law.

A meeting of the clergy from the various English dioceses, being adjourned from the previous day, was held on Tuesday evening, at the Craven Hotel, Strand. The proceedings lasted several hours, and the following resolutions were agreed to:—

1. That the doctrine maintained by the Rev. G. C. Gorham on the subject of holy baptism, and declared by the report of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council to be admissible in the Church of England, is, in the opinion of this meeting, heretical and contrary to the creed, in that it denies that original sin is remitted to all infants in and by the grace of holy baptism.

2. That it is the duty of all churchmen to consider what steps shall be taken in order to procure a synodical recognition of the doctrine of the remission of original sin in and by the grace of holy baptism.

3. That it is a grievance of conscience and subversive of the integrity of the Book of Common Prayer, that it should be maintained by public authority that the essential part of a vital doctrine may be taught in different and contradictory ways in the Church of England.

4. That it is the opinion of this meeting that all constitutional means should be employed for obtaining a measure giving legal effect to the proper ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the provincial synods, with or without judicial assent, as courts of final appeal in causes of doctrine and all matters purely spiritual.

A petition to the Queen to convoke a general synod was adopted and numerously signed. It was announced that another meeting of the clergy on the same subject will be held shortly after Easter. It is stated that in the event of the Bishop of Exeter declining to institute Mr. Gorham, the Archbishop will perform the duty by holding a special visitation in the diocese, in his capacity as metropolitan.

Some of the morning journals—as the *Herald* on the part of Mr. Gorham, and the *Morning Post* on the part of the Bishop of Exeter—join in the conflict. The *Post* on Thursday described the judgment of the Privy Council as "most unexpected and most unjust"—as "pretended"—as "the judgment of infatuated politicians;" it pronounces the decision to be "ominous" and "unheard-of;" and declares all the quotations in the judgment from Jewel, Usher, Hooker, Pearson, and Jeremy Taylor to be "falsely quoted"—to be "mutilated and garbled." It further declares that the Archbishop of Canterbury "furnished the lay judges with the line of equivocation they have adopted." We have no opinion to give on such language: it will speak for itself, and must satisfy our readers that this case of Mr. Gorham is likely to be as important a case as has troubled the Church since the days of Dr. Sacheverell.

CHURCH OF BRAMPFORD SPEKE.—The "Ecclesiastical Antiquities of Devon" (by the Rev. G. Oliver) describes the Church of Bramford Speke (engraved last week):—"The Speke family, as lords of the manor, had appropriated this parish church of St. Peter to the Prior and Convent of St. Nicholas, Exeter, as early as the reign of King Stephen. That community continued to hold the great tithes and presentations to the vicarage for nearly 400 years, viz. until the dissolution of their monastery, in 1536. In 1789, the living was put under sequestration; and it is believed that, during that period, the old registers were lost. The earliest register which could be found was of the date of 1739." The writer adds the following description of the state in which the church appeared at the time of his visit:—"The upper part of the tower seems to threaten destruction to those who approach it. On entering the sacred edifice, we were perfectly disgusted at the want of taste in blocking up windows, at the chilling dampness of the floor and walls, and at the pitiful attempt of the Painted style in the new north transept. The chantry on the south side is ancient indeed, and once belonged to the Speke family. Under its arch was probably some monumental effigy; but now the scene is reckless, poverty-stricken, and desolate. The only grave-stone worthy of attention was that of Tristram Skinner, of Cowley, gentleman, who died 14th Dec., 1635."

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The very Rev. H. U. Tighe, Dean of the Chapel Royal, to the Deanery of Leighlin. The Rev. R. M. Kennedy, to the Deanery of Clonfert. The Rev. E. Inwood Jones, to the Rural Deanery of Usk, Monmouthshire. The Rev. William Frederick Nevill, to be Rural Dean of the Deanery of Glastonbury. The Rev. Charles Bradshaw Bowles, to the Rural Deanery of North Stoke, Winchester. The Rev. Archibald Aeneas Julius, to the Rectory of Mile End, or Myland, Essex. The Rev. C. Marriott, to the Vicarage of St. Mary the Virgin, Oxford. The Rev. John Cresswell, to the Vicarage of Creech St. Michael, Somerset. The Rev. William Jennings, to the Vicarage of Clondulane, Ireland.

VACANCIES.—Flint, P.C., Flintshire; dio. of St. Asaph; void by the promotion of the Rev. T. B. L. Browne; patron, Bishop of St. Asaph; value £225. Hale, P.C., Farnham, Surrey; dio. Winchester; patron, Vicar of Farnham; Rev. L. M. Humbert, promoted.

TESTIMONIALS.—The following clergymen have recently been presented with acknowledgments of esteem and regard:—The Rev. Thomas Murray Cookesley, curate of St. Mary's, Bury St. Edmund's, from members of his congregation; the Rev. J. H. Butcher, incumbent of Ramsbottom, by the congregation; the Rev. G. H. Turner, curate of St. Andrew's, Holborn, by the congregation; the Rev. J. Fletcher, curate of St. Mark's, Marylebone, by the congregation.

THE REV. PROFESSOR PUSEY.—We learn that the pamphlet advertised by the Rev. Dr. Pusey against the Royal supremacy—in reinforcement of the arguments of the Rev. Messrs. Keble, Maskell, Sewell, and others—has been suppressed. The antecedents of the reverend author, added to the recently-announced fact of a governor in his family having joined the Church of Rome, and another lady who has hitherto followed his direction being on the point of joining the Romish schism, may have suggested this prudential step.—*Church and State Gazette.*

It is generally understood that the Ecclesiastical Commission has definitely arranged with the Rev. George Thomas for the house and demesne of Llandaff Court; so that the ancient see of Llandaff will again have its episcopal palace and a resident Bishop, after a lapse of more than 400 years—the last Bishop's residence, then called the Bishop's Castle, having been destroyed by Owen Glendower, the present handsome old gateway being the only remnant of it.

According to the *Globe*, the Rev. William Sewell, Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, in his sermon at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall, on Sunday afternoon last, denounced in strong terms the recent decision of the Judicial Committee of her Majesty's Privy Council.

GRAND BANQUET AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.

On Thursday evening, the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor gave a grand entertainment to his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and a large and distinguished party, in honour of the approaching Great Industrial Exhibition of all Nations, which is to take place in Hyde Park next year. The banquet was on a scale of unusual splendour, and was well worthy the ancient and proverbial hospitality of the City of London, and of the right hon. gentleman who at the present time so honourably and creditably discharges the duties of Chief Magistrate of the City. Among the distinguished company invited to meet his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, and which included the Mayors of nearly all the cities and boroughs of the kingdom, were:—His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord John Russell, M.P., the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Carlisle, Earl Grey, Earl Granville, Lord Viscount Palmerston, Lord Viscount Clifden, Lord Stanley, Lord Overstone, Sir Robert Peel, Bart., M.P., Sir James Graham, Bart., M.P., Henry Labouchere, M.P., Sir G. Grey, Bart., William Ewart Gladstone, Bart., the French Ambassador, the Bavarian Minister, the Buenos Ayrean Minister, the Portuguese Minister, the Neapolitan Minister, the Prussian Minister, the Danish Minister, the Netherlands Minister, the Swedish Minister, the Russian Minister, the American Minister, the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires, the Sardinian Chargé d'Affaires, Sir J. P. Boileau, Bart., Sir John Wm. Lubbock, Bart., Sir Anthony de Rothschild, Bart., Sir Moses Montefiore, Bart., the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge, the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, the Governor and Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England, the Chairman and Deputy-Chairman of the East India Company, the Members of the Royal Commission, Francis Baring, Esq., M.P., Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., John Masterman, Esq., M.P., Philip Pusey, Esq., M.P., Samuel Morton Peto, Esq., M.P., Baron de Rothschild, M.P., Robert Stephenson, Esq., M.P., William Cubitt, Esq., M.P., Matthew Forster, Esq., M.P., John Abel Smith, Esq., M.P., the Lord Mayor of Dublin, the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, the Lord Mayor of York, the Lord Provost of Glasgow, the Mayor of Maidstone, the Mayor of Marlborough, the Mayor of Manchester, the High Constable of Margate, the High Constable of Merton, Tydyl, the Mayor of Newark, the Mayor of Newcastle-on-Tyne, the Mayor of Newcastle-under-Lyme, the Mayor of Newport, Isle of Wight; the Mayor of Newport, Monmouth; the Mayor of Northampton, the Mayor of Norwich, the Mayor of Nottingham, the Mayor of Oldham, the Mayor of Lichfield, the Mayor of Oxford, &c.

The company began to arrive as early as half past five o'clock, it being arranged that a levee should be held previously to the banquet, at which the principal guests were to be introduced in the drawingroom to the Prince.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by Colonel Bouverie, arrived shortly after six o'clock, and was received by a guard of honour of the Hon. Artillery Company, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Fitzroy, who were stationed in the vestibule with presented arms, the band playing the national anthem. His Royal Highness was conducted to the drawingroom by the Lord Mayor, and the guests were then introduced. After the levee, the company proceeded to the Egyptian Hall, where the banquet was set out, the Prince Consort taking the seat of honour on the right of the Lord Mayor. Most of the guests wore state or official costume, the Mayors and municipal officers of the various towns wearing their state robes and chains of office; and when all were seated the hall presented an extremely brilliant and gay aspect. The tables were loaded with a profusion of plate, costly vases, fruit, and rare exotics, many beautiful emblematic devices of art, trade, and manufactures being interspersed with more substantial viands. The pillars surrounding the hall were hung with banners bearing the arms of the several counties of England, Scotland, and Wales, and at either end were large transparencies—that over the chair representing the genius of Great Britain presiding over the commerce and industry of the country; and at the opposite end was a view of the proposed great industrial building to be erected in Hyde Park.

In front of his Royal Highness was a very beautiful model of the Royal Crown, also a model of the Prince of Wales's plume in frosted silver. After the cloth had been removed, the Loving Cup was announced by a flourish of trumpets from the chair, Mr. Hacker, the toast-master, announcing the style and title of the various guests.

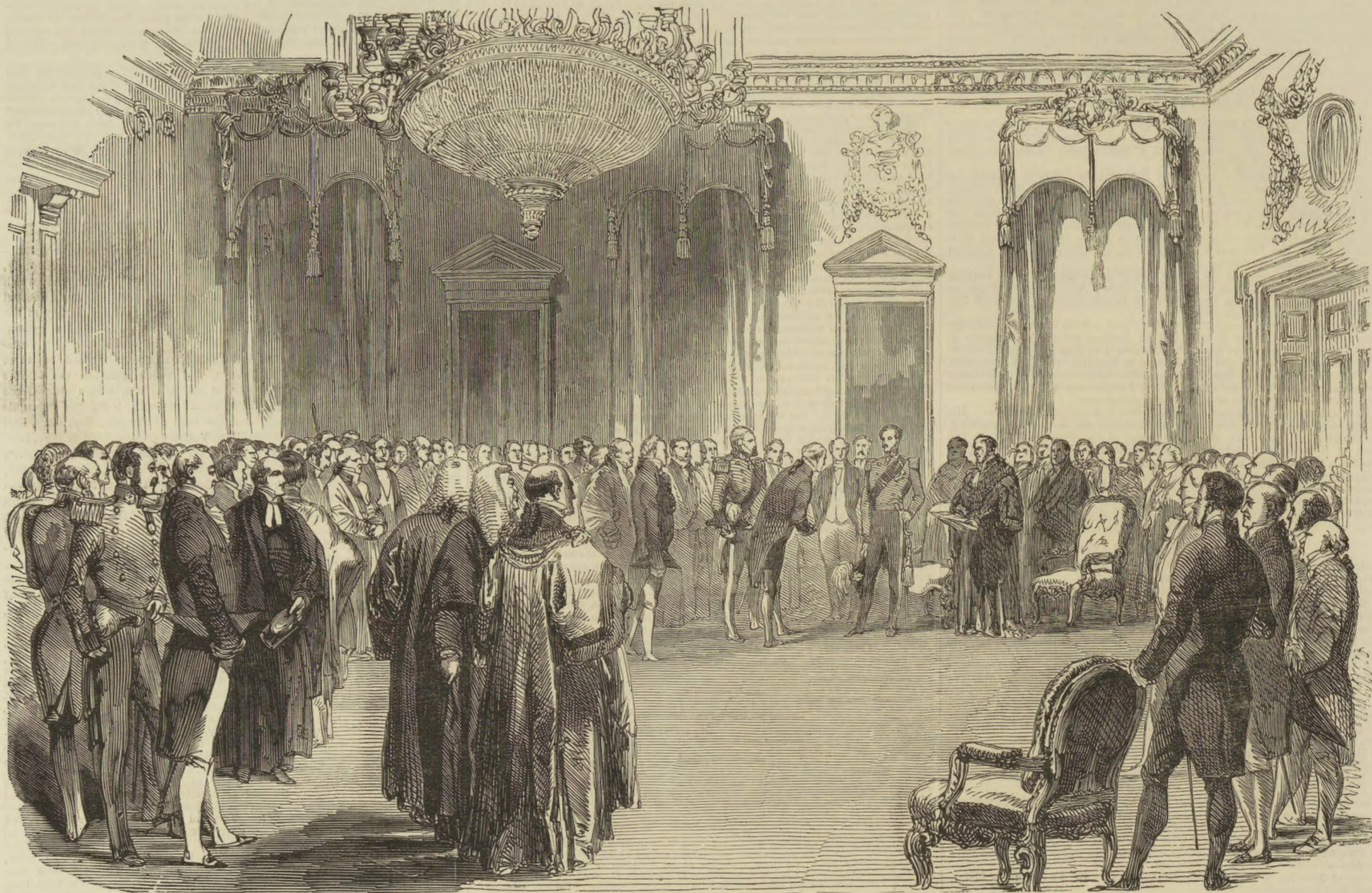
The Lord Mayor then gave "the health of her Majesty the Queen, which he trusted would be received with all the cordiality and loyalty which it merited." (Three times three, and loud cheering.)

The next toast given by the Lord Mayor was "The health of his Royal Highness Prince Albert," with which he coupled "the great Industrial Exhibition of which he was the originator."

His Royal Highness returned thanks as follows:—

"MY LORD MAYOR, I am sincerely grateful for the kindness with which you have proposed my health; and to you, Gentlemen, for the cordiality with which you have received this proposal. (Cheers.) It must, indeed, be most gratifying to me to find that a suggestion which I had thrown out, as appearing to me of importance at the time, should have met with such unusual concurrence and approbation; for this has proved to me that the view I took of the particular character and requirements of our age was in accordance with the feelings and opinion of the country. Gentlemen, I conceive it to be the duty of every educated person closely to watch and study the time in which he lives, and, as far as in him lies, to add his humble mite of individual exertion to further the accomplishment of what he believes Providence to have ordained. (Cheers.) Nobody, however, who has paid any attention to the particular features of our present era, will doubt for a moment that we are living at a period of most wonderful transition, which tends rapidly to accomplish that great end to which, indeed, all history points, the realization of the unity of mankind. (Loud and vociferous cheers.) Not a unity which breaks down the limits and levels the peculiar characteristics of the different nations of the earth, but rather a unity the result and product of those very natural varieties and antagonistic qualities. (Cheers.) The distances which separated the different nations and parts of the globe are gradually vanishing before the achievements of modern invention, and we can traverse them with incredible ease: the languages of all nations are known, and their acquirement placed within the reach of everybody: thought is communicated with the rapidity and even by the power of lightning. (Cheers.) On the other hand, the great principle of division of labour, which may be called the moving power of civilization, is being extended to all branches of science, industry, and art. (Cheers.) Whilst formerly the greatest mental energy strove at universal knowledge, and that knowledge was confined to the few, now they are directed to specialities, and in these again even to the minutest points. But the knowledge acquired becomes at once the property of the country at large. Whilst formerly discovery was wrapped in secrecy, from the publicity of the present day, no sooner is a discovery or invention made, than it is already improved and surpassed by competing efforts. The products of all quarters of the globe are placed at our disposal, and we have only to choose what is the best and cheapest for our purposes. The powers of production are entrusted to the stimulus of competition and capital. (Cheers.) So man is approaching to more complete fulfilment of that great and sacred mission which he has to perform in this world. His reason being created after the image of God, he has to use it to discover the laws by which the Almighty governs his creation; and by making these laws his standard of action, to conquer nature to his use. He discovers these laws of power, motion, and transformation, and his industry applies them to the low matter which the earth yields us in abundance, but which becomes valuable only by knowledge—art teaching us the immutable laws of beauty and sympathy, and giving to our productions forms in accordance with them. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, the Exhibition of 1851 is to give us a true test, and a living picture of the point of development at which the whole of mankind has arrived in this great task, and the new starting-point from which all nations will be able to direct their further exertions. (Cheers.) I confidently hope that the first impression which the view of this vast collection will produce upon the spectators will be that of deep thankfulness to the Almighty for the blessings he has already bestowed upon us; and the second, the conviction that those blessings can only be realised in proportion to the help which we are prepared to render to each other; therefore only by peace, love, and ready assistance, not only between individuals, but between the nations of the earth. (Hear, hear.) This being my conviction, I must be highly gratified to see here assembled the magistrates of all the important towns of this realm, sinking all their local and possibly political differences, the representatives of the different political opinions of the country, and the representatives of the different foreign nations, to-day representing only one interest. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, my original plan had been to carry out this undertaking with the help of the Society of Arts of London, which had long and usefully laboured in this direction, and by means of private capital and enterprise. (Cheers.) You have wished it otherwise, and declared that it was a work which the British people as a whole ought to undertake. I at once yielded to your wish, feeling that it proceeded from a patriotic, noble, and generous spirit: on your courage, perseverance, and liberality the undertaking now entirely depends. I feel the strongest confidence in these qualities of the British people, and am sure that they will repose confidence in themselves—confidence that will honour

THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1851.



THE GREAT EXHIBITION OF 1851.—LEVEE AT THE MANSION-HOUSE, ON THURSDAY.

ably sustain the contest of emulation, and nobly carry out their proffered hospitality to their foreign competitors. We, her Majesty's Commissioners, are quite alive to the innumerable difficulties which we shall have to overcome in carrying out the scheme; but having confidence in you, and in our own zeal and perseverance at least, we require only your confidence in us to make us contemplate the result without any apprehension. (Loud cheers, in the midst of which his Royal Highness resumed his seat.)

The Lord Mayor then gave the toast of the "Prince of Wales and the Royal Family."

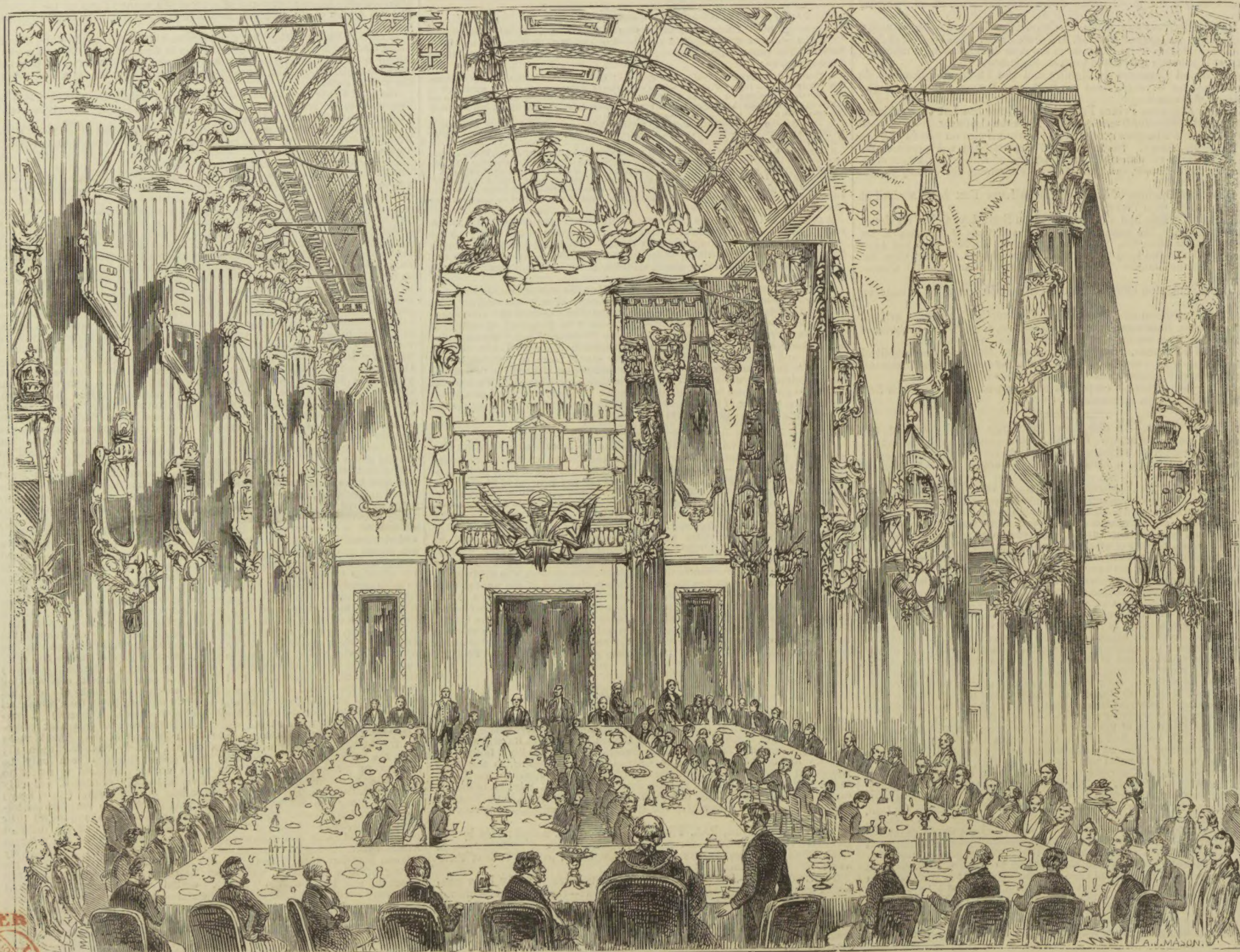
Acknowledged by Prince Albert, who proposed "The Lord Mayor, and prosperity to the city of London."

The Lord Mayor acknowledged the toast, and proposed "The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Clergy."

The Archbishop of Canterbury acknowledged the toast, which was followed

by "the Army and Navy," "the Foreign Ministers," "the Marquis of Lansdowne and the House of Lords," "Lord J. Russell and her Majesty's Ministers," "Lord Stanley, and the Royal Commissioners," "the Lady Mayoress and the Ladies Patronesses of the Exhibition," "Sir R. Peel and the House of Commons," "the Chief Magistrates of the Cities and Boroughs," "the Aldermen and City Magistrates," and "the City Companies."

The company did not separate until a late hour.



BANQUET IN THE EGYPTIAN HALL, AT THE MANSION-HOUSE.



SCENE FROM "DER FREISCHUTZ" (THE WOLF'S GLEN), AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



PROCLAMATION OF THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SEINE, AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

MANY questions have, at various times, been asked on the subject of the Royal Academy—on its usefulness to the public, on the subject of its existence, on its influence upon art, and on the amount of its revenues, and the manner in which they are expended. The *Times* of Wednesday, in an article which will, we think, give satisfaction to the public, to the patrons of art, and to all artists who are not Royal Academicians, asks very pithily "What is the Royal Academy," and "What business has it in the National Gallery." It answers the first question by tracing the history of the Academy, and by showing very clearly, that, whatever it may do towards the elevation of the social position and emolument of a few artists, it has done, does, and can do nothing for the elevation of art. Our contemporary justly draws the distinction between a society for the benefit of artists, and a society for the promotion of art.

of art; and having placed the Royal Academy in the first category, will not allow that it belongs to the second by any perceptible relationship. This, however, is a wide question, which it would occupy much space and time to discuss fully; but, without doing injustice to the real merits of the Royal Academy, it may be asserted that the public, and artists generally, are right when they say "that whatever may have been the purpose of the Royal founder and patron of the Academy, that institution has not elevated the arts, but has simply produced a personal benefit to certain artists; and that it has not improved the public taste, but has merely ministered to the taste which it found." If this be, as we believe, a true description of the Royal Academy, the public may well demand to know by what right this private body claims a joint possession of the National Gallery? It is quite rich enough, with the proceeds of the shillings that it levies upon the public purse at the doors of its exhibition, to build or rent an edifice for its own purposes. Were there room to spare in the National Gallery, without doing injustice to the public by unduly cramming the national pictures into small space, the privileges claimed by the Royal Academy—though a proof of the shabbiness of that body—might be conceded. But where the reverse is the case, it is time that the Royal Academy should keep itself to itself, live upon its own resources, and leave the National Gallery to the purposes for which it was instituted—purposes with which, collectively and in its corporate capacity, the Royal Academy has nothing to do. Its occupation of room which was not intended for it is an intrusion—all the more inexcusable because it is not in a state of pauperism, or condemned to appeal to the generosity of the public to give it house-room. "Instead of spacious galleries, where the public might receive instruction by viewing the works of the great masters, classed according to their age or style, we are condemned to the confusion of an auction-room, in order that a rival establishment may exhibit its wares for money, and receive its shillings at the door after the fashion of Tom Thumb." The British Institution or the Society of Painters in Water-Colours might, with quite as much justice, claim a similar privilege. Our National Gallery would be wretched enough in its accommodation, had it no such interlopers; and there is no reason imaginable why the Royal Academy should make bad worse.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—ELECTION OF COMMON SERJEANT.

A court was held on Thursday morning for the purpose of electing a Common Serjeant for the city of London, in room of the late Mr. Serjeant Mirehouse. Mr. Richard Lambert Jones said he had great pleasure in recommending Edward Bullock, Esq., citizen, spectacle-maker, to the office of Common Serjeant for this city. The character of that gentleman stood so high in the city, and was so much esteemed by the bar generally, that it was not necessary for him to enlarge upon his merits, the more especially as no one had come forward to oppose him.

Mr. John Wood seconded the nomination. Mr. Deputy Harrison begged, as a matter of form, to ask a question of Mr. Bullock, which it was necessary should be answered before the election was proceeded with—the question whether it was the intention of Mr. Bullock to resign his offices of Judge of the Sheriffs' Court, and Small Debts Court, and Commissioner of the Central Criminal Court?

Mr. Bullock replied that there would be some difficulty in his resigning the Judgeship of the Sheriffs' Court at present, but he should be happy to resign at any time that might be convenient to this court.

Mr. H. L. Taylor said he thought the court should either have the resignation of Mr. Bullock at this moment, or a promise from him that, if he were elected Common Serjeant, he would immediately resign the appointments he now held. His (Mr. Taylor's) impression was that Mr. Bullock did not mean to resign, but that it was his intention to appoint a deputy. (Cries of "Oh, oh.")

After a few words from Alderman Farebrother, Mr. Bullock assured Mr. Taylor that he was quite mistaken in supposing that he did not wish to resign the offices in question. It would be infinitely more convenient for him to resign at this moment; but it was not in his power to do so until a successor was appointed.

A show of hands was then demanded, and Mr. Bullock was declared by the Lord Mayor to be unanimously elected common serjeant for the Corporation of London.

Mr. Bullock returned thanks, and said it gave him considerable pride to be appointed to this office after an acquaintance of twenty-three years with the Corporation, seven years of which period he had held a judicial office. He hoped his conduct in future would be as satisfactory as it appeared to have been in the past.

A resolution was then passed that Mr. Bullock be requested to continue the offices he now held until a successor or successors be appointed.

It was next resolved that it be referred to the Officers and Clerks' Committee to inquire into the nature and duties of the several offices of Judge of the Sheriffs' Court and Commissioner of the Central Criminal Court, and Judge of the Small Debts Court, and to report thereon to this court.

The court then adjourned.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, BROMPTON.—A meeting of the board of management was held at the hospital on Thursday last. Amongst those present were the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, the Hon. Octavius Duncombe, M.P., Captain Gladstone, the Earl of Arundel and Surrey, Major Lyon, &c. The chair was taken by the Rev. Sir Henry Foulis, Bart. The decision for the immediate proceeding with the building of the eastern wing was met with the warmest approbation. Several new rules and regulations were then moved and adopted, and a vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business of the day.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.—Major Herbert Edwardes, the distinguished hero of Moulton, who was formerly a student but since an associate of King's College, has intimated his willingness to preside over a festival in May next, in aid of a fund for building and endowing a more efficient hospital in connection with that college.

MERCHANTS' AND TRADESMEN'S MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this society took place on Thursday last, at the offices of the company, Chatham-place, Blackfriars; John Macgregor, Esq., M.P., in the chair. The report stated, that during the past year 293 policies had been opened by assurances, to the amount of £78,620, the premiums on which were £2486. Not one death had occurred during the past year, which was an evidence of the care they practised in the selection of their lives. The report was adopted; and a sum of £500 was voted to the directors, who had hitherto received no remuneration whatever. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, manager, and secretary, the meeting separated.

THE GORHAM CASE.—IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE CLERGY.—On Monday, a meeting of clergymen connected with the various dioceses in England was held at the offices of the London Church Union, in Lancaster-place, to take into consideration the recent decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the case of the "Rev. G. C. Gorham against the Bishop of Exeter." The meeting was regarded as one of considerable importance, and was attended by a large number of beneficed clergymen, who were appointed as delegates from church unions in most of the English sees. Amongst those who assembled were several distinguished ecclesiastical dignitaries. The proceedings, which commenced at twelve o'clock, extended over seven hours, and were held to be of a strictly private character, the great object in view being to decide what step should now be taken by what is generally termed the High Church party, who maintain the doctrine of baptismal regeneration to be one of the fundamental principles of the Church of England. Another object the promoters of the meeting had in view, was to take measures for obtaining a general protest on the part of the Church against the interference of the Privy Council (which they hold to be an essentially lay court) in matters of a purely spiritual character. Great unanimity, it is said, prevailed, and the proceedings of General Councils were quoted, with a view to show that the present court of appeal is opposed to the spirit and intention of the Church, which had at times protested, not against the authority of the Sovereign, but the manner in which it was exercised. In proof of this the Church forbade, under pain of excommunication, a presbyter to appeal to a civil court (Council of Antioch, A. 341, can. 12; Council of Carthage, A. 397, can. 9; Council of Vannes, A. 465, can. 9.) The Council of Milevis (can. 19, Codex Eccl. Afr., can. 104, received by the Council of Chalcedon) said, "Whoever shall ask of the Emperor for his cause to be heard before the public tribunals, let him be deprived of his rank; but if he ask the Emperor to be judged by Bishops, let it not harm him." It was contended that the Judicial Committee had no power to reverse the judgments of the Church courts, and that, therefore, its decisions ought not to be accepted by the Church, and were not binding upon Christian people; that the only proper means of dealing with such a case as that which had recently engaged public consideration was by means of Convocation, and that her Majesty should be petitioned forthwith to assemble such a Synod to deliberate and decide upon the important question at issue. Convocation had not surrendered its right in this matter, for the Convocation which gave the title of "Head of the Church" to Henry VIII., under which title he assumed the powers of the Royal prerogative which he did, gave it with the express qualification, "quantum per legem Christiani fecit." At the time the meeting broke up, no final decision had been arrived at, the subject being deemed of sufficient importance to warrant further deliberation on an early day.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—At a very crowded general court of proprietors held on Thursday, in the Bank parlour, for the purpose of taking into consideration the amount of dividend to be agreed upon for the half-year expiring on the 5th proximo, the Governor stated that the profits for the

half-year ending on the 28th of February last had exceeded the sum required for the usual dividend of 3½ per cent. by £16,106; and the amount of the rest, out of which the dividend was to be declared, was £3,583,434. Now, a dividend of 4 per cent., without any deduction for income-tax, required £882,120, which, being deducted from the rest, would leave £3,001,314—a shade above the sum of three millions which the court of proprietors had considered to be a sufficient amount of rest for the Bank to hold. (Hear, hear.) Under these circumstances, the court of directors thought themselves warranted in recommending the court of proprietors to declare a dividend of 4 per cent. (Hear, hear.) He therefore begged leave to move that the court do order that a dividend be made at 4 per cent. on the capital stock of the company, without any deduction for income-tax. (Hear, hear.) The motion for a dividend of 4 per cent. for the half-year was then put, and carried unanimously; whereupon the Governor said that, as 4 per cent. was a higher amount of dividend than had been declared at the last half-yearly meeting, it was necessary, by the terms of their charter, that the question should be finally determined by ballot; for which purpose, when the business of the day was over, the court would adjourn to Tuesday, the 26th instant, at eleven o'clock, when the ballot would be proceeded with.

ROYAL GENERAL ANNUITY SOCIETY.—A meeting of the subscribers of this institution was held at the society's offices on Monday—the Rev. W. Henry Jones, the chaplain, in the chair—to consider the following alterations in the rules of the society:—That any person becoming a subscriber, on paying a new subscription, after the balloting papers are issued for an election of annuitants, shall be allowed the option of giving at that election the whole number of votes to which they would be entitled for that and the succeeding election, on relinquishing their right to vote on such succeeding election. After some discussion the alteration was carried unanimously, on the motion of Mr. Brewster, seconded by Mr. Smith. Active preparations are making for a Fancy Fair in behalf of the institution, which will be held on the 22nd, 23d, and 24th of May.

THE CALEDONIAN ASYLUM.—A special general court of this institution was held on Tuesday, at which Mr. H. H. Lindsay was called to the chair. The three objects for which the court was specially summoned were disposed of as follows:—On the motion of Captain Charles Forbes, seconded by Mr. Craig-Myle, a committee of investigation was appointed to inquire into the condition of the institution, and to devise and carry into effect such retrenchments as may be necessary to equalise the expenditure with the income. The Chisholm said the institution was spending between one and two thousand a year above its income, and would necessarily become insolvent if some change were not adopted. The subject of the abolition of the office of superintendent was referred to the committee of investigation; and the resolution of the court of directors of the 18th January, dismissing the drill-sergeant, was rescinded on a division, twenty voting for its confirmation, and 22 on the contrary, the drill-sergeant, as one of the guardians, voting for his own reinstatement.—On Thursday the quarterly general court of this charity was held in the Scottish Hospital, Cranecourt, Sir Grace the Duke of Montrose in the chair, when a vote came to the special meeting on Tuesday, for reinstating the bandmaster in his situation, in opposition to the directors, was rescinded by a majority of 35 to 32. Other resolutions were also carried approving the proceedings of the directors, which will result in all the officials of the charity being changed.

MARINE SOCIETY.—The anniversary festival of this excellent society was held at the London Tavern on Tuesday evening; the Right Hon. the Earl of Romney in the chair, supported by Lieut.-General Sir James Law Lushington, G.C.B.; Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Malcolm; Capt. T. P. Clarke, R.N.; Capt. Robert Gordon, R.N.; Mr. H. S. Thornton, Mr. J. C. Whiteman, Mr. T. P. Cooke, and several other supporters of the institution. The healths of her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal family having been drunk with all the honours, the chairman gave the "Army and Navy," combining with it the names of Sir James Lushington and Sir Charles Malcolm, who respectively returned thanks. The gallant Admiral, in the course of his observations, stated that on the occasion of their last annual meeting, the First Lord of the Admiralty (Sir F. Baring), who was in the chair, shortly expressed his opinion of the advantages of keeping up the connexion between the Admiralty and this institution, even if only six or eight boys annually could be taken from the society. He had since given taken twenty from them during the present year; and, though there was another school recently established in connexion with the Admiralty, he believed he might state that from twenty to twenty-four boys would be annually admitted from their society into the Royal navy. (Cheers.) The chairman next gave the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Marine Society," and in doing so congratulated the subscribers on its continued prosperity, stating that arrangements were under consideration for bringing up a portion of the boys to war the rearing of boys for the navy would be, as it had always been, their primary object. The report showed that the number of boys on board the society's ship on the 1st January, 1849, was 100, and there had been received during the year 311; making a total of 411, who had been thus disposed of:—Sent into the Royal navy, 3; ditto into the Indian navy, 40; ditto into the merchant service, 239; discharged, 19; run, 2; dead, 3; remaining on board the 31st of December, 1849, 105; making the total as above, 411. During the year 1849, fifty-seven boys, who had served upwards of twelve months of their apprenticeship satisfactorily, appeared before the committee with their masters, and were each rewarded with a new suit of clothes; and fifty young men, who had completed their apprenticeship to the satisfaction of their masters, were each rewarded with a medal, their certificates of good conduct having afforded the committee much gratification. After the drinking of the toast, the boys in the institution—who appeared in the best of health—were marched round the room, and gave three hearty English cheers, which were enthusiastically responded to by the company. Several other toasts were drunk; and in the course of the evening a collection was announced, amounting to about £560, including £105 from her Majesty, £105 from the Hon. East India Company, £105 from the Corporation of the Trinity House, &c.

ASYLUM FOR FEMALE ORPHANS.—The triennial anniversary of this society took place on Wednesday at the London Tavern, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge in the chair, supported on the right and left by Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P.; Henry Kemble, Esq., the Baron Knessebeck, Sergeant Adams, Thomson Hankey, Esq., Samuel Wheeler, Esq., &c. Nearly 200 gentlemen sat down to the dinner. His Royal Highness, in proposing the toast of the evening, said he had been for 45 years president of this most excellent institution. No man could feel more deeply interested in the welfare of this society than he did; and, indeed, it would be almost unnatural if he were not so. (Cheers.) He was sorry to say that from circumstances—perhaps from the increase of the vast neighbourhoods of the metropolis, and the increase of the number of chapels, to which many had contributed—the funds of this society, in respect to the Sunday collections, had been much reduced. But he was sure that there was no one present who would not be sorry to see a necessity shown for reducing the number of the recipients on the fund. (Hear, hear.) He trusted and hoped that the treasurer would be enabled to make a good report of that evening. (Hear, hear.) He also trusted that those whom he addressed would do all in their power to aid the good cause in which they were embarked, and that they would do all they could to induce their friends to subscribe to this most excellent Christian charity. Of the immense amount of good effected by this society there could be no doubt. It was a pleasing fact that many of those who had been brought up in this institution had prospered in life, and had become annual subscribers to it. (Cheers.) This institution had existed now for ninety-two years (cheers), and for forty-five years he (the chairman) had been president of the society. (Great cheering.) His Royal Highness concluded by proposing "Prosperity to the Female Orphan Society." (Vociferous cheering.) Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P., proposed "The Health of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge," in highly eulogistic terms. His Royal Highness replied, and expressed the great gratification he derived from his long association with this glorious charity. His Royal Highness at the same time notified that the Prince George of Cambridge had expressed his willingness to become a vice-president of this society (hear); and among the donations was one of ten guineas from the Prince George of Cambridge, the total amount of subscriptions received was £2077 12s. 6d. Mr. Toole filled the office of toastmaster with great judgment.

INSTITUTION FOR THE ADULT DEAF AND DUMB.—A meeting was held on Tuesday evening at the board-room of the above institution, in Red Lion-square, Bloomsbury. It was stated that the teaching of the different trades had been attended with the most gratifying success; and from communications received from clergymen and others, in different parts of the country, the after-progress and conduct of the pupils seemed highly satisfactory. From a statement of Mr. H. B. Bingham, of the Rugby College, it appeared that an experience of thirty years had given convincing proof of the necessity of combining mental and physical instruction. Of seven trades introduced in the Exeter Deaf and Dumb Institution, each answered admirably, except shoemaking.

GROCERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this society took place on Monday evening, at the London Tavern—Mr. Henry Kemble in the chair. The report stated that the progress made during the last year had been most satisfactory, and the annual subscriptions had exceeded in amount those of any year for the last nine years. They had 685 annual subscribers, producing £837 17s. per annum; and that amount, together with the donations and dividends on stock, made a total of £1673 7s. In addition to paying the year's pensions, which amounted to £816, they had invested a further sum of £600 in the Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, making the sum now invested £12,000, yielding a clear annual dividend of £409 10s., and leaving a balance in the Bank of England of £373 4s. 7d. The committee had felt justified in increasing the number of new pensioners. All the pensioners elected this year had been in their better days subscribers to that fund from which they were now receiving the welcome benefit. The total sum distributed in pensions since the establishment was £5409 9s. At the present time there were nineteen males receiving annually £480, and eighteen females receiving £342. The receipts for the past year amounted to £1938, and the expenditure £1563, leaving a balance of £375.

FREE EVENING SCHOOLS, LAMBETH.—On Monday evening a crowded meeting of the friends and supporters of these schools was held in the School-Room, Lambeth-green; his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chair. On the platform were the Ven. the Archdeacon of Surrey; Dr. Wordsworth, canon of Westminster; the Revs. C. B. Dalton (rector of Lambeth), T. Jackson (principal of Battersea Training Schools), H. Mackenzie (St. Martin's), C. Mackenzie, H. Clissold, H. Townsend, R. Egan, J. Gillman, J. A. Janson, W. Bowyer, E. T. Domville, W. T. Bullock, W. Rogers, D. Moore, &c. The proceedings having been opened by prayer, his Grace said he had much pleasure in coming forward, by the invitation of the Rector of Lambeth, in such a cause. It must be interesting to all in rearing a young generation, and protecting it from premature vice, for without these and other schools they would be brought up without the fear of God or man. Some would say the schools ought not to be

ree, as the parent was bound to educate his child, but circumstances had placed it out of the power of a great number to pay for the education of their children; therefore it was the duty of all who were able to come forward, and help those unfortunate. The evening was intended for a time of rest, but, unfortunately, a large number of children were called away during the day to help towards the support of their respective families, and, consequently, it was the duty of all Christians to provide against such occasions, and rescue those children who are thrust out thus early in the world from vice and sinfulness. In concluding, his Grace begged most earnestly that all those assembled would come forward in support of these schools to the utmost of their power. (Cheers.)—The Venerable Archdeacon of Surrey said he was happy to see the sympathy shown by the presence of so large an assemblage before him. They had seen and felt the improvements of the present day, and on looking back they must be aware of the utility of founding schools for teaching young children to fear God as well as to respect the laws of man. The Venerable Archdeacon then read the resolution:—

That it is incumbent upon the Church to provide sound religious instruction for the large body of children of both sexes who, either from extreme poverty or from occupation during the day, or from other causes, are unable to avail themselves of the means of education offered to them in the parochial day schools.

The Rev. Dr. Wordsworth seconded the resolution, which was put, and carried unanimously. The Rev. C. B. Dalton moved the following resolution:—

That the success of the Lambeth Free Evening Schools is a most encouraging proof of the eagerness with which such opportunities of instruction are sought after; and that it is now desirable to make these schools more generally known, and to invite the parishioners to contribute towards their maintenance and extension.

He observed that these schools were intended for children whose parents are too poor to pay for their education, or who are too ragged to attend other schools, or who from any cause are unable to obtain instruction during the day-time. The Rev. J. Jackson seconded the resolution, which was carried without dissent. It was also shown that the donations and annual subscriptions, with the grant of £42 14s. from the Committee of Privy Council on Education, amounted to £190 19s., and after defraying the necessary expenses a balance in hand remained of £195 18s. 9d. Other gentlemen having addressed the meeting, thanks were unanimously accorded to the most reverend prelate in the chair, which his Grace briefly acknowledged, concluding with a benediction on the assembly, when the meeting broke up.

EMIGRATION AND RAGGED SCHOOLS.—A public meeting took place on Thursday evening in the school-room of the Westminster Juvenile Refuge and School of Industry; Lord Ashley, M.P., in the chair. The chairman having stated the object of the meeting to be on behalf of five youths who were about to leave England from the Ragged Dormitory and Colonial Training School of Industry, the young men themselves were heard, and gave an interesting sketch of the vicious and depraved habits in which the early part of their lives had been sunk. They seemed truly penitent for the sins of which they had been guilty, and expressed the liveliest gratitude of the opportunity which has afforded them of commencing an honest career of industry. Several gentlemen then addressed the meeting, and a vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

THE HON. AND REV. BAPTIST W. NOEL.—On Tuesday, the day appointed for the public recognition of the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel as pastor of John-street Chapel, Bedford-row, the chapel was crowded by a highly fashionable audience. The hon. and rev. gentleman entered into the pastoral duties of this chapel some six months back; but, owing to the illness of the late Rev. J. H. Evans, who had then been minister of John-street Chapel 30 years, the ordination service of the Baptist church could not be performed. Another reason for their necessary postponement was the absence of a satisfactory arrangement for the sale of the chapel, as H. Drummond, Esq., M.P. for Surrey, was unwilling to allow this place of worship to remain any longer in the hands of Baptists. A sum of money from the congregation, £200 of which was contributed by a noble duchess, has, however, settled this difficulty, and on Tuesday he was inducted as pastor of the chapel. Prayer having been offered up, a statement regarding the affairs of the church was then read by one of the deacons. It stated that since the hon. and rev. gentleman had been acting as pastor they had been obliged to increase the chapel to accommodate 200 additional sittings, making it now capable of holding nearly 2000 persons. The cost of purchase from Mr. Drummond was £6500, with certain conditions in the event of the decease of Mr. Noel. Within the last six months the reverend pastor had baptized nearly 100 persons, nearly all of whom were members with him when in Bedford-row. Addresses "On the duty of a pastor to the church," and "On connection between the pastoral office and prosperity of the church," were then delivered, after which the hon. and rev. gentleman addressed the congregation at considerable length. The services lasted three hours, and were terminated by the singing of the doxology.

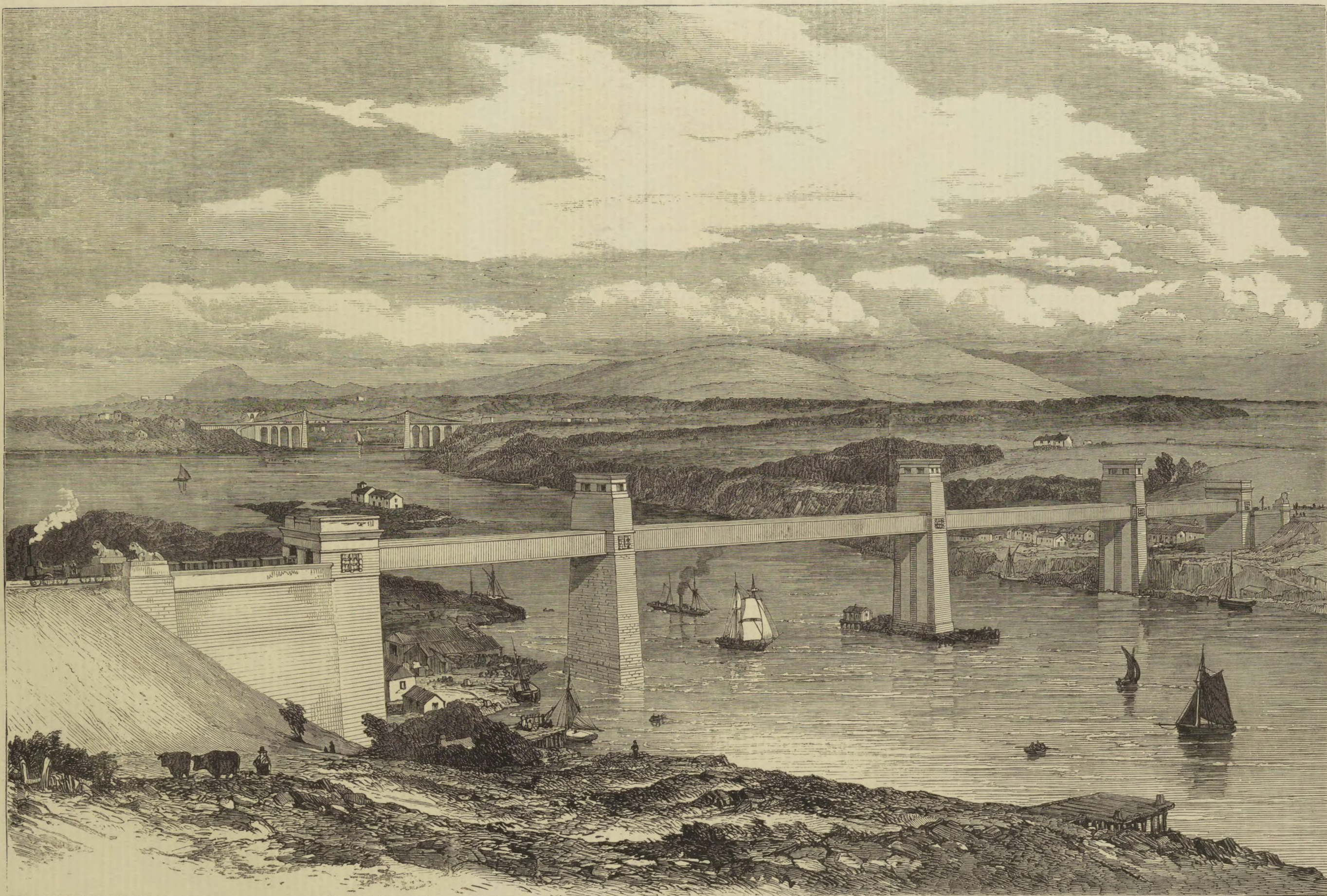
THE MANCHESTER RECTORY BILL.—The Select Committee of the House of Commons upon this bill has commenced its sittings, which will, in all probability, be protracted. Mr. Hope and Mr. Burke appear for the churchwardens of Manchester, the promoters. The chief opposers of the bill (the object of which is to divide the Rectory of Manchester into districts) are the Dean and Chapter, who do not, however, object to the division, but the mode of effecting it. They contend that they hold the revenues rather as improprators, and that no cure of souls is attached to the possession of those revenues; the promoters, on the other hand, assert that there is a cure of souls, and that, by its own charters, the Chapter is in a different position to that of most other collegiate bodies. Mr. Talbot and Mr. Baddeley appear for the Dean and Chapter. The minor canons and lay clerks also oppose the bill by Mr. Chambers; and Sir Thomas de Trafford, who holds the right of appointing the lay-clerks, by Mr. Russell. Mr. Hope opened the case in support of the preamble on Tuesday; and in the course of his very lengthy and very learned speech, an incidental discussion arose, whether the minor canons had any *locus standi* in respect to the preamble, and whether their case was not one of clauses only. The committee, at this point, as a matter of convenience, gave their opinion against the *locus standi* in the case of the minor canons, and in its favour in respect to Sir Thomas de Trafford. On Wednesday Mr. Hope concluded his address, and then called the Rev. Canon Sargent one of the opposers of the bill in support of its preamble, who was examined at great length as to the management of the college estates and the various charters, which he produced. The committee then adjourned. The selected members are:—Mr. Deedes (in the chair), Mr. Childers, Mr. Bramston, Mr. Wrightson, and Lord John Manners; and to these are added Mr. W. Brown (South Lancashire), Mr. M. Gibson (Manchester), and Mr. Brotherton (Salford), as representatives of the locality.

STEAM TO AUSTRALIA.—In consequence of the great anxiety existing in reference to the decision of the Government respecting the contracts some time ago presented for effecting intercourse by steam-vessels with the Australian colonies, a deputation waited, on Wednesday, upon Earl Grey, consisting of Lord Montagu, Hon. F. Scott, M.P.; Sir Wm. Mole-worth, M.P.; Sir Wm. Verner, M.P.; Mr. Macgregor, M.P.; Mr. Duncan, M.P.; Mr. Scholefield, M.P.; Mr. Divett, M.P.; Mr. George Robert Smith, Mr. Davidson, Mr. De Salis, Mr. Mark Boyd, Mr. Russell Todd, Mr. Charles Logan, Mr. Henriques, Mr. Blackett, Mr. Donaldson, &c. Mr. Scott stated forcibly the object of the deputation, and recapitulated the various stages through which the question had passed during the last four years, and the impediments which had interrupted its progress. His arguments were earnestly sustained by Mr. McGregor, Mr. Divett, and other gentlemen; the former especially urging, on the part of his constituents at Glasgow, that commercial objects connected with that city and our Australian colonies were completely paralyzed from the absence of those definite means by which time and certainty of communication might be calculated upon in mercantile transactions. Lord Grey observed that he was fully alive to the importance of the subject, and that it was one in which he took a strong interest. It was not his fault, however, that delay had occurred; difficulties had certainly arisen in bringing the matter to an earlier issue; but, having that morning seen the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he was enabled to say there was every reason to hope that the arrangements, with respect to contracts now pending, would be brought to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion.

DREADFUL CONFLAGRATION.—About four o'clock on Wednesday morning the neighbourhood of East Smithfield and the London Docks presented a scene of the most indescribable confusion, owing to an outbreak of fire on the premises of Messrs. Wackbarth and Collings, sugar-refiners and bakers. It originated, it is presumed, in one of the drying-rooms, and such was the extent to which the flames had reached before anything like assistance from the firemen could be procured, that in half an hour nearly every floor was in flames. The engines of the brigade from Wellesloe and Jeffries-square, as also those from other City and distant stations, were very speedily at the fire; but, unfortunately, the nature of the property was such, that the attempts of the firemen to extinguish the flames were completely useless; and thus the ravages of destruction continued until noon, when scarcely anything was visible but the walls of the building. The loss is estimated at from £15,000 to £20,000, but supposed to be insured in the Phoenix, Imperial, and other offices.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Births registered in the week ending Saturday, March 16:—Males, 728; females, 656; total, 1384. Deaths during the same period:—Males, 500; females, 467; total, 967. This return shows an increase in the deaths of nearly 100 on those of the previous week, and a disposition to rise after a continuous fall during a period of five weeks. The average of corresponding weeks in ten years (1840-9) is 991, which, if corrected for increase of population, becomes 1081; the number now returned is therefore less than the average by 114 deaths. Taking again the ten corresponding weeks, it appears that the deaths fluctuated between 792 and 1118, and that the mortality, which showed a decided tendency to increase in later years, rose in the last three above 1000. To account for the excess in the present return over that of the former week, the only epidemics observed to be more fatal are hooping-cough, croup, and diarrhoea, which numbered respectively 43, 9, and 17, against 35, 3, and 9 of the previous return; but these diseases, except the last, do not seem to prevail more than usual at this season. The 17 deaths from diarrhoea are double the average of ten corresponding weeks; but in the three weeks of 1847-49, during which years this complaint has increased, they were 10, 19, and 20. The increase is further accounted for by phthisis, the mortality from which has risen to near the average, and amounts to 143 deaths; and also to some extent by bronchitis, from which there were 79, and by pneumonia from which there were 82, though neither of these numbers is remarkable as compared with returns for the same season in the last three years.

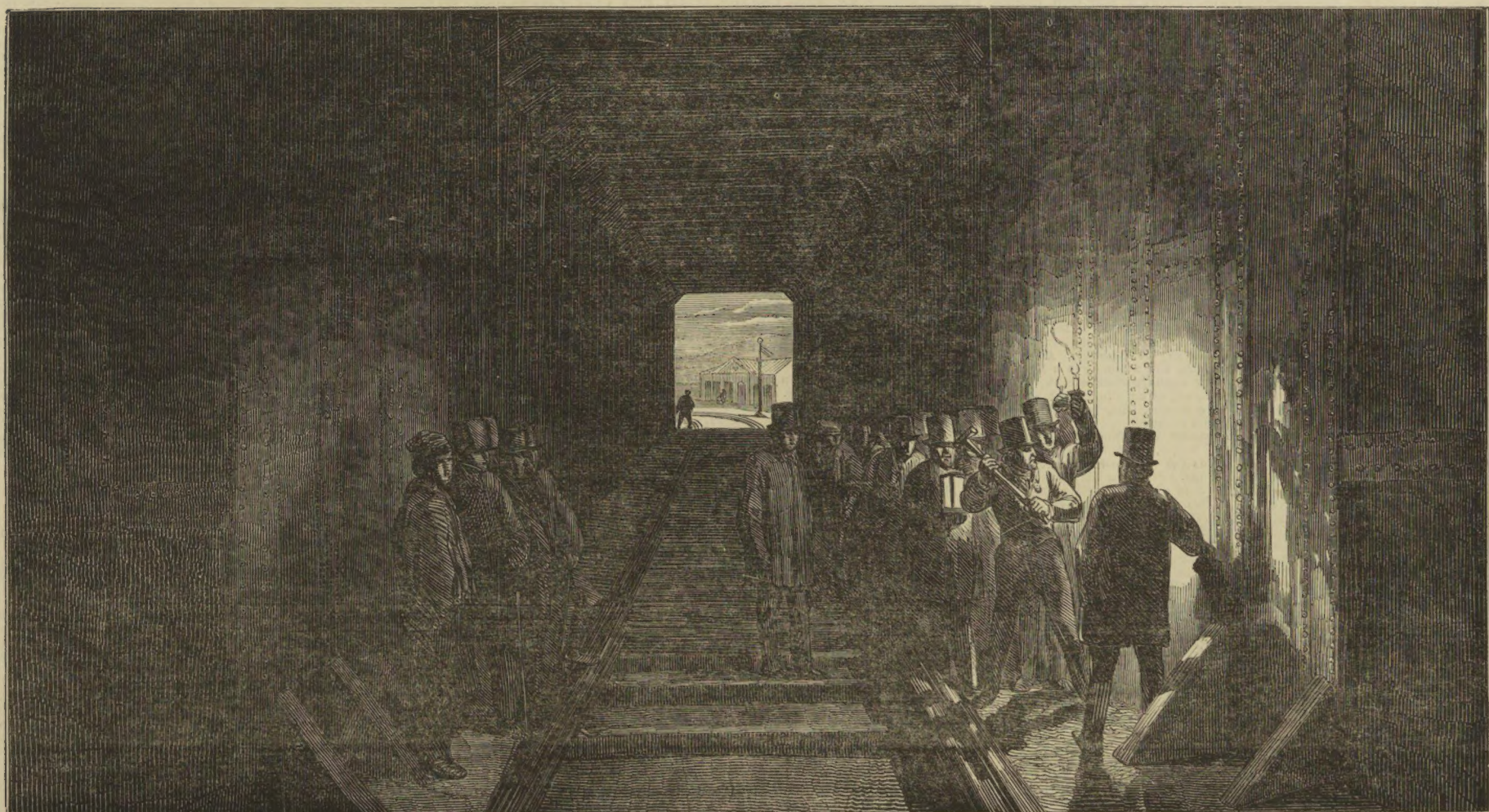
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—The mean daily reading of the barometer at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, was above 30 in. on every day of the week; on Tuesday it was so high as 30.438; and the mean for the week was 30.292. The temperature decreased considerably towards the end of the week, and the mean was 40.9 degrees, rather less than the average of the same week in seven years. It was less than the average on the last three days, and on Friday and Saturday was from 4 degrees to 6 degrees less than the average of these days.



THE BRITANNIA TUBULAR BRIDGE ACROSS THE MENAI STRAITS.—SKETCHED FROM THE ANGLESEY SHORE.



THE BRITANNIA TUBULAR BRIDGE.—ENTRANCE FROM THE BANGOR SIDE.



INTERIOR OF THE TUBE.—MR. STEPHENSON DRIVING THE LAST RIVET.

OPENING OF THE BRITANNIA BRIDGE FOR TRAFFIC.

In our Journal of March 9, we recorded the passing of the first train through this magnificent structure, on March 5; and then gave the details of the experiments made by Mr. Stephenson and his staff of engineers, to test the capabilities of the tube to sustain the equilibrium of forces.

During the trial of the dead-weights, a very interesting episcopal proceeding took place in the interior of the Carnarvonshire land tube—that of putting the last rivet into the plates, making exactly the 2,000,000th that have been used. The rivet having been put in by Mr. Mare, was driven home and fastened by Mr. Stephenson, by successive strokes with a huge hammer. This ceremony was followed by the waving of hats and the deafening acclamations of the work-people.

Our Artist has pictured this scene upon the preceding page. Mr. Stephenson, in a brief address, eulogised the industry of these men, and their devotion to their work; adding that he could never forget the ingenuity and the labour exhibited in the humble sphere of the great operation, nor the masterly manner in which the work had been carried out under the superintendence of Mr. T. Fleet, who had distinguished himself as a sterling and honest workman.

On Friday and Saturday last (March 15 and 16), Capt. Simmons, the Government Inspector for the Railway Commissioners, made his official inspection of the vast tube, accompanied by Mr. E. Clark (the resident engineer) and Mr. Hedworth Lee (the engineering manager of the Chester and Holyhead line); when a series of important experiments took place to ascertain the law of deflection and the absolute structural strength of the fabric. The experiments consisted in observing the deflections under successive loads, the passing of three locomotives, with a train sufficient to cover each of the tubes, through the bridge at various speeds; and the running of locomotives and tenders, without trains, at variable rates of progress. The last experimental Government train was a heavily laden one of coal-waggons, weighing 240 tons, with three locomotive engines. This was run through the tube at the ordinary rate at which such trains travel, from ten to twelve miles an hour; and the deflection, as taken by a deflection-meter fixed in the centre tower, was scarcely perceptible. This train was then drawn completely over one of the tubes, and there left as a dead weight, while Captain Simmons descended, and made a minute inspection of the masonry, the riveting, plate-work, cellular top and bottom of the tubes, riveting, and other arrangements, which occupied a considerable time. On returning to the tube, the deflection caused by the load was found to be about three-fourths of an inch. Similar experiments made in the other tubes exemplified the perfect success that has attended the continuity of the beam, the most remarkable feature in the structure, caused by the junction of each of the before isolated tubes, for, as the engines entered upon the small land tube, the motion due to their progressive weight was ascertainable in every tube, even over to the further extremity of 1560 feet in length. Locomotives in steam were then passed through as fast as practicable, but only at twenty miles an hour, owing to the curves at either end. The deflection was the fraction of an inch, and the vibration scarcely perceptible—the tonnage weight of the tube itself acting, in reality, as a counterpoise or preventive to vibration. Captain Simmons was understood to be extremely interested with the bold design and immense strength of the remarkable high-road, which is now described by its engineers as strong enough to support a line-of-battle ship suspended, or a load of locomotives piled one on the top of the other over its whole surface. The experiments were considered satisfactory, as tending to show that all parts of the stupendous work obeyed the calculated requirements, and to a certain extent determined the conjectural questions of duration and stability to arise under the test of every day usage.

On Monday, the 18th, the Britannia Bridge was opened for traffic. The first passenger train that passed over was the Express from Holyhead, at three o'clock, P.M.; it was crowded with passengers, anxious to be among the first to pass through the tube. The train arrived at Euston-square exactly at eleven o'clock; thus effecting a saving of an hour over the usual transit.

The full benefit of the change will not, however, be experienced until the forms of Government routine have had time to come into operation. In the meantime, the mail bags will continue to be taken out of the train at Bangor, and conveyed round in a cart to Llanfair, where the train will await their arrival.

We understand that an invitation was forwarded to Prince Albert, requesting the honour of his Royal Highness' presence at the opening of the Bridge; and that a courteous reply has been returned, stating that the Prince Consort's engagements prevented his attendance on Monday, that the Prince of Wales was too young to undertake the journey alone, and that it was her Majesty's intention to pay a personal visit to the line at an early opportunity.

The opening of the line on Monday was celebrated by a dinner at the Royal Hotel, in Holyhead, given by the Hon. W. A. Stanley, M.P. There were about 40 or 50 guests present, comprising the officers of the Government and Chester and Holyhead steam-boats, the officers of the Chester and Holyhead Railway, and the principal inhabitants of Holyhead. The healths of Mr. R. Stephenson and others were drunk after the usual loyal toasts, and the party broke late hour.

The inauguration was to have taken place on the 17th, St. Patrick's Day, out of compliment to the natives of the sister isle; but that day happening to fall on a Sunday, this could not be accomplished.

Our Artist has depicted the train entering the tube from the Bangor side; showing two of the four colossal statues of lions—"we must not," says Sir F. Head, "compare them to sentinels, for they are couchant—which in pairs terminate the land ends of the abutments that on each side of the Straits laterally support its approaching embankment." They are composed of the same grey Anglesey marble as the towers. "These noble animals, which are of the antique, knocker-nosed, pimple-faced Egyptian, instead of the real Numidian form, although sitting, are each twelve feet high, twenty-five feet long, and weigh thirty tons. Their appearance is grand, grave, and imposing—the position they occupy being 180 feet in advance of the entrances into the two tubes, which so closely resemble that over the drawbridge into a fortress, that one looks up almost involuntarily for the portcullis."

In the larger view we have the stupendous Bridge seen from the Anglesey shore. Beneath are the deep Menai Straits, in length about 12 miles, through which, imprisoned between precipitous shores, the waters of the Irish Sea and of St. George's Channel are not only everlastingly vibrating backwards and forwards, but at the same time, and from the same causes, are progressively rising or falling from 20 to 25 feet with each successive tide, which, varying its period of high water every day, forms altogether an endless succession of aqueous changes. Sir Francis Head tells us that—

"The point of the Straits which it was desired to cross—although broader than that about a mile distant, pre-occupied by Mr. Telford's suspension-bridge—was, of course, one of the narrowest that could be selected; in consequence of which, the ebbing and flowing torrent rushes through it with such violence, that, except where there is back-water, it is often impossible for a small boat to pull against it; besides which, the gusts of wind which come over the tops, down the ravines, and round the sides of the neighbouring mountains, are so sudden, and occasionally so violent, that it is as dangerous to sail as it is difficult to row; in short, the wind and the water, sometimes playfully, and sometimes angrily, seem to vie with each other—like some of Shakespeare's fairies—in exhibiting before the stranger the utmost variety of fantastic changes which it is in the power of each to assume."

Nothing can exceed the descriptive beauty of Sir Francis Head's picture of the country in which the Bridge is situated, as he saw it from a platform fifteen feet above the pinnacle of the Britannia Tower, which rises majestically out of the middle of the stream to a height of 230 feet.

"The view was magnificent. On the east and west were to be seen glittering in large masses the Irish Sea and St. George's Channel, connected together by the narrow Straits, whose silvery course, meandering in the chasm beneath, was alike ornamented and impeded by several very small rocks and islands, round and about which the imprisoned stream evidently struggled with great violence. Upon two or three of these little islands was to be seen, like a white speck, the humble cottage of the fisherman, who alone inhabited it. About a mile towards the Irish Sea there gracefully hung across the stream, in a festoon, which, in the annals of science, will ever encircle the name of Telford, his celebrated suspension-bridge, over which a couple of horses, appearing like mice, were trotting."

"On the north lay extended a verdant country, surmounted in the direction of the new railroad by the great Anglesey Column, erected by the surrounding inhabitants to the noble commander of the cavalry at Waterloo. About two hundred yards beneath this splendid testimonial, and adjoining to a little isolated church, there modestly peeped up a very small freestone obelisk, erected by the workmen of the tower on which we stood, as an humble but affecting tribute of regard to some half-dozen of their comrades, who, poor fellows! had been killed in the construction of the Britannia Bridge."

"On the south, the horizon appeared bounded, or rather fortified, by that range of mountains, about forty miles in length, which bear the name of Snowdon, and among which, the loftiest, stands the well-known patriarch of the group. Between the base of these hills and the Straits was the little wooden city built for the artificers and workmen, its blue slates and whitewashed walls strongly contrasting with each other. In this vicinity we observed, in large masses and patches, the moving multitude through which we had just driven, and who, unsatisfied with enjoyment, were still swarming round one object after another, like bees, occasionally dispersing only to meet again."

"We would willingly conclude our slight panoramic picture by describing the appearance of the moving water gliding past the foot of the tower beneath; but on going to the edge of the masonry to look down at it, we must confess that we found it to be utterly impracticable to gaze even for a moment at the dizzy scene."—(Highways and Dry-Ways.)

We may here state that the several towers and abutments are externally composed of grey roughly-hewn Anglesey marble; that the land-towers, the bases of which are the same as that of the Britannia, are each 198 feet above high-water, and that they contain 210 tons of cast-iron girders and beams.

Sir F. Head, when he saw one of the tubes raised, and in its place, observed: "It seemed surprising to us that by any arrangement of materials, it could possibly be made strong enough to support even itself—much less heavily-laden trains of passengers and goods, flying through it, and actually passing each other in the air, at railway speed. And the more we called reason and reflection to our assistance, the more incomprehensible did the mystery practically appear; for the plate-iron of which this aerial gallery is composed is literally not so thick as the lid, sides, and bottom which, by heartless contract, are required for an elm coffin 6½ feet long, 2½ feet wide, and 2 feet deep, of strength merely sufficient to carry the corpse of an emaciated, friendless pauper from the workhouse to his grave! The covering of this iron passage, 1841 feet in length, is literally not thicker than the hide of the elephant! Lastly, it is scarcely thicker than the bark of the

'good old English' oak; and if this noble sovereign, notwithstanding the 'heart' and interior substance of which it boasts, is, even in the well-protected park in which it has been born and bred, often prostrated by the storm, how difficult it is to conceive that an attenuated aerial hollow beam, no thicker than its mere rind, should by human science be constituted strong enough to withstand, besides the weights rushing through it, the natural gales and artificial squalls of wind to which throughout its immense length, and at its fearful height, it is permanently to be exposed!"

The first thing that strikes the spectator on approaching the Cyclopean piles of masonry is the vast masses of stone of which they are constructed. The limestone is in such immense blocks, that to the eye of the uninitiated it seems almost impossible to move them; yet they were moved with perfect ease; for such is the ingenuity, simplicity, and strength of the tackle used, that it appeared to be a matter of small moment whether a block of stone weighed one ton or twelve tons.

When the tubes are riveted together into two continuous hollow beams, each 1513 feet in length, as stated by Sir F. Head, it will far surpass in size any piece of wrought-iron work ever before put together, its weight, 5000 tons, being nearly equal to that of two 120-gun ships, having on board, ready for sea, guns, powder, shot, provisions, crew, flags, captains, chaplain, admiral, and all! The cost of this stupendous bridge to the Chester and Holyhead Railway Company, to the 30th of June last, had been half a million of money; and the entire expense has been estimated at from £600,000 to £700,000.

The great work has now been four years in hand, and is nearly complete, while Telford's suspension-bridge took eight years. The floating and actual transference of the tubes has occupied since June last.

MUSIC.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

The scheme of the second concert was Philharmonically orthodox—there were two symphonies (Haydn's Letter Q and Mendelssohn's No. 2 in A); two overtures (Beethoven's "Leonora" and Bernard Romberg's in D); a violin solo, and a pianoforte concerto, with two singers of the French and German schools to relieve the instrumental pieces. Haydn's excellent work was executed with expression and *finesse*; the adagio was encoired, and the presto finale, a movement in which the composer's contrapuntal treatment is so remarkable, was equally entitled to the compliment. Mendelssohn's symphony was composed expressly for the Society, which alone possesses the M.S. score. How it is that it has been so rarely heard, it is impossible to guess: some portions are superior even to his No. 3, known as the Scotch Symphony. The andante in E minor, for instance, is full of the most impassioned feeling; and the finale, a presto saltarello, in which a tarantella is most ingeniously interwoven, is a masterpiece of counterpoint and picturesque orchestration. The slow movement was encoired: the weakest part is the minuetto, a feeble composition, based on Haydn's forms and ideas. The Symphony was rendered magnificently—the wind instruments were in excellent order, and the strings were functioned in admirable style. The "Leonora" overture, one of the four composed by Beethoven for "Fidelio," went off capitally. The first violins came in gloriously in their onward rush in the last movement; and the trumpet in the distance, by Mr. T. Harper, was exceedingly effective. The wild, mystical spirit of the composer in this composition was duly appreciated by the conductor and his fine forces. Romberg's overture is not startling, but it is the writing of a classic mind. Henry Blagrove selected Meyseder's Introduction and Polonaise in A to show off his purity of tone and finished execution: he was most deservedly applauded for his excellent playing. Mr. Charles Salaman's taste in choosing the C minor Pianoforte Concerto of Beethoven must be eulogised, but his style is too flippant and his accent too loose to develop the grandeur and passion with the effect the amateur has a right to exact from executants at these concerts. Mr. Salaman, however, is a composer of merit, and has some reputation as a performer of chamber compositions. Mlle. Chanton sang in the first part the romance "Une fée," from Auber's "Domino Noir," and the air "A toi j'ai recours," from "Les Diamans de la Couronne," by the same composer. She was well received; but we have heard her sing more advantageously on the stage, for which she has a combination of qualities that tell more than in a concert-room. Herr Formes sang airs by Spohr and Mozart in the second part, with his usual energy and coarseness: he is essentially a stage singer. The next concert will be on the 8th of April.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MUSICIANS.

The 112th anniversary Festival was celebrated on the 15th inst. in Freemasons' Hall, the Duke of Cambridge being the President of the day. The following was the order of the musical scheme after the banquet:—

PART I.—Grace (Non nobis, Domine) and Amen (Dr. Cooke); the National Anthem, solo verse by Miss E. Lyon; glee, four voices, "Return, blest days," sung by Messrs. Land, Barnby, Bayley, and Lawler (J. S. Smith); duo, "Come away," by Misses A. and M. Williams (W. H. Holmes); ballad, "The Dewdrop and the Tear," Mr. Francis (J. W. Hobbs); fantasia (pianoforte), Miss Kate Loder; "Wedding March" (Mendelssohn); song, "The Friar," Herr Formes (W. L. Phillips); Romance, Mr. Sims Reeves (Lillo); "Elegie" and "Carnival de Venise" (Ernst); glee, "Foresters sound the Cheerful Horn," Messrs. Gray, Land, Bayley, and Bradbury (Sir H. R. Bishop).

PART II.—March (Haydn); glee, "When winds breathe soft," Miss E. Lyon, Messrs. Land, Bayley, N. Novello (Webbe); canonette, "I think of thee," Miss Rainforth (E. B. Harper); song, "The First Violet," Miss Ellen Lyon (Mendelssohn); Glee, "In autumn we should drink boys" (Marschner).

The above selection afforded the highest gratification to the company. The galleries were filled with ladies. The reception of Ernst, who, in 1844, gave the society £74, his share of a concert with Moscheles, at which, through indisposition, the violinist was unable to play, was most enthusiastic. Miss Kate Loder's playing, and Mr. Reeves's singing, of the air of Lillo introduced in "Lucrezia Borgia" by Lillo, created a great sensation. Formes was encoired in Mr. Phillips's song; and the band of wind instruments, including Lazarus, Card, sen. and jun., Baumann, C. and T. Harper, Rae, Godfrey, Williams, Clöff, Prospère, &c., had to repeat the March of Mendelssohn. Amongst the donations and subscriptions were, the Duke of Cambridge, £20; the late J. H. Peacock, of the London Tavern, £100; a young lady (anonymous), ten guineas; R. Addison, Esq., ten guineas; W. Lyall, Esq., five guineas; Dr. Outram, five guineas; Mr. Surnan, two guineas; Cipriani Potter, Esq., five guineas; Jules Benedict, Esq., five guineas; Sims Reeves, Esq., five guineas; with guineas from Professor Taylor, Signor Begnez, Mr. T. Chappell, Mr. Benson, &c. The receipts in 1849 were £3128 14s. 6d.; the expenditure, £2489 4s. 1d. Of this latter sum, £1851 3s. 18d. went to aged musicians, widows, and orphans; £258 8s. in temporary relief and funerals; £49 in benefactions to indigent musicians, widows, &c., having no claim on the institution, leaving only a small amount of about £251 for officers' salaries, printing, &c. Mlle. Lind gave, in 1849, £150, a part of the proceeds of her Exeter Hall concerts. The Royal Duke was very animated in advocating the cause of the institution; he wished that every musician at his age (76) might be as hale as he was. He alluded to the absence of the respected Mr. Parry, whose exertions had been so long appreciated by the society. Another absence was that of the patriarch Mr. Horsley, M.B., Oxon, who was elected a member in 1797. Mr. George Anderson, the honorary treasurer, exerted himself zealously at this festival. The annual rehearsal and performance of Handel's "Messiah," for the benefit of the society, will take place on Monday morning, May 6, and Wednesday evening, May 8.

CLASSICAL CHAMBER COMPOSITIONS.

THE MUSICAL UNION.—The first *matinée* of the sixth season took place on Tuesday, at Willis's Rooms. Mr. John Ella, the director, announces the gratifying fact that the list of members is greater than any previous year. Carrying out the principle that "art belongs to no country," Mr. Ella introduced to his subscribers Miss Kate Loder, the gifted pianist and composer, who has been creating such interest since her *début* at the Philharmonic concerts; and Mr. Ella intimates that Herr E. Silas, a native of Amsterdam, and Stephen Heller, the celebrated pianist and composer, will be heard at these meetings, besides Ernst. The programme comprised Hummel's quintet in E flat minor, Op. 52, for piano, violin, viola, violoncello, and contra-basso; Mozart's quartet in D, No. 7; Mendelssohn's rondo capriccioso, Op. 14; and Beethoven's septet in E flat, Op. 20. The executants were, Sainton and Deloffre, 1st and 2nd violins; Hill, viola; Piatti, violoncello; Howell, contra-basso; Lazarus, clarinet; Baumann, bassoon; Mr. Jarrett, horn; and Miss Kate Loder, pianoforte.

MR. W. S. BENNETT.—The third and last performance of classical pianoforte music by this distinguished composer took place on Tuesday evening, at the Hanover-square Rooms. The scheme included Bach's Sonata No. 2 in A, for piano and violin, played by Mr. Bennett and Herr Molique; Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata in C sharp minor, Op. 27, performed by Mr. W. S. Bennett; selections from Mendelssohn's "Songs without Words"; the Kreutzer Sonata, Op. 47, for violin and piano, finely executed by Mr. Bennett and Herr Molique; and gleanings from Mr. Bennett's pianoforte works. Miss Dolby, for whom indulgence was claimed on account of cold, was the vocalist.

HERR MOLIQUE.—At the second concert, on Wednesday evening, at the Hanover Rooms, the programme comprised Beethoven's Quartet in E, Op. 59; Spohr's Quartet in B, Op. 61; Bach's adagio, fugue, and *bourrée*, for the violin; Molique's trio for piano, violin, and violoncello, Op. 27; three melodies of second book by Molique for violin and piano; and three German songs by Eckert, Lendblad, and Molique. The executants were Mlle. Schloss, Messrs. W. S. Barrett, A. Mellon, Carrodus, Piatti, and Molique.

MR. LUCAS'S MUSICAL EVENINGS, AND M. ALEXANDRE BILLET'S CONCERTS OF PIANOFORTE MUSIC.—The second concert was given by Mr. Lucas, at his residence in Berners-street, Sainton, Blagrove, Hill, Lucas, and Mr. Lindsay Sloper being the executants; and M. Billet had his second *soirée* at St. Martin's Hall on Friday.

MUSICAL EVENTS.—The first concert of the Royal Academy of Music will take place this day (Saturday).—The third concert of the Amateur Musical Society will be given next Monday.—Mendelssohn's "Elijah" will be performed next Monday, at Exeter Hall, by the London Sacred Harmonic Society, conducted by Surman, with Misses C. Hayes, Bassano, Byers, Mrs. Noble, Messrs. Lockett and Lawler, for chief singers.—Mr. Henry Russell will give his entertainment next week at the Lyceum Theatre.—Miss Emma Stanley's "Peep Before and Behind the Curtain" will be presented next Tuesday, at the Princess' Concert-room.—Signor Felice Ronconi will give his third *soirée musicale* on Wednesday; and, on the same night, will be the fifth of the second series of Exeter Hall concerts.—Our notice of Spohr's "Last Judgment," Mendelssohn's "Lauda Sion," and Haydn's Third Mass, performed on Friday, at Exeter Hall, by the Sacred Harmonic Society,

conducted by Costa, will appear in our next Number.—There was a concert on Friday night, at the Marylebone Literary Institution.—The third concert of the London Operatic Society took place at Crosby Hall, last Monday, at which selections from the "Sonnambula" were sung by Mrs. John Roe, Mrs. W. Dixon, Misses M. Murrell, Two-die, and Hayes; Messrs. Day, Harding, Bishop, Bannister, and Hancock.—Miss Catherine Hayes has been singing in Limerick, her native town, and Cork, in Italian operas, with the greatest enthusiasm; she will appear after Easter at Her Majesty's Theatre.—The committee of management for Mr. Platt's farewell concert, on Wednesday, April 24, include Sir G. Smart (Chairman), Sir H. R. Bishop, and Mr. Costa; Messrs. Addison, Allan, Anderson, Barret, Beaumann, Beale, Benedict, W. S. Bennett, Blagrove, Budd, T. Chappell, I. B. Chatterton, Cooke, Cox, Crivelli, D'Almaine, Dulcken, C. C. Eames, Ella, H. Forbes, Grünelsen, J. H. Griesbach, T. Green, Hancock, Harper, Hutton, Hogarth, Holmes, Horsley, M. B., Oxon, Howell, Jullien, Koenig, Laven, Lazarus, Leader and Cock, H. Leslie, A. Leslie, Lindley, Lockett, Lucas, Lyon, Mitchell, Neate, A. Novello, C. Olivier, R. W. Ollivier, W. L. Phillips, M.B., Oxon, Potter, Ribas, Rovedino, Sainton, E. Stephens, Surman, Watkins, Williams, and Willy. Treasurer, Mr. T. Chappell; secretary, Mr. S. T. Lyon. The concert is under the immediate patronage of the Queen, Prince Albert, and the Duke of Cambridge. The orchestra will include upwards of 100 players, conducted by Costa, and the most eminent foreign and native artists.—Handel's "Messiah" will be performed next Wednesday, at Exeter Hall, by the Sacred Harmonic Society, conducted by Costa; with Miss Catherine Hayes, Miss P. Horton, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Herr Formes, as principal vocalists.

THE THEATRES.

HER MAJESTY'S.

Despite the oft-times repeated assertion of the musical purists, that the operas of Verdi possess no one element of excellence, we find his works in the foremost ranks of the lyrical *repertoires* of every European opera-house. At Paris, in Vienna, in St. Petersburg, they are in the ascendant. They have attained an universal popularity—they are selected by the vocalist as his best medium for display—and they are keenly relished by the various publics.

On Tuesday, the Queen and Prince Albert honoured Her Majesty's Theatre with their presence, and remained to witness the ballet of "Les Métamorphoses." Verdi's opera of "Nino" was revived, and introduced a new baritone, named Lorenzo de Montemeri, but styled in the bills Signor Lorenzo. His figure is commanding, his face handsome and expressive, and his action impressive. The duet with *Abigail*, in the third act, was given with great pathos. His singing throughout was correct, and in good taste. Mlle. Parodi played *Abigail*; and her forcible style confirmed the impression conveyed last week by her performance of *Medea*. Beletti was the High Priest, *Orotape*, which he ably sustained by the firmness of his singing and the solemnity of his manner. *Fenena* was played by Madame Giuliani, and the aria, at the end, was, as usual, encoired. The chorus of "Va pensiero" also received the accustomed honour of an encore. The house was fashionably attended.

On Thursday night the romantic opera of "Ernani" was given with great effect; Mr. Sims Reeves, the great English tenor, appearing, for the first time, as the bandit hero. We need not now dilate upon the power, fluency, and sweetness of his voice—the perfection of his method, the legitimacy of his style, or his dramatic energy. In *Ernani* there is ample scope for the exhibition of all these qualities; and we may add that no *Ernani* who has previously appeared upon these boards—and the character has been illustrated by the "picked men of Italy"—has produced so profound a sensation. Sims Reeves has now a brilliant career opened to him, and we shall have little future faith in our own ratiocinations, if he does not, by serious study and true devotion to his art, secure it without fear of contestation. His reception was most enthusiastic, and his rendering of the aria *d'intrata* was received with *furor*. The same result was occasioned by his charming feeling of the duet with *Elvira*, and in the last trio. The dying scene was natural and unexaggerated. Signor Lorenzo, as *Carlo*, fully established the excellent impression created by his poetical impersonation of *Nino*. Beletti was in fine voice, and Parodi's *Elvira* is in our opinion a worthy companion to her *Norma* and *Medea*. The theatre was well attended.

ST. JAMES'S.

On Monday night, the one-act operetta, by Myn Herr Von der Does "L'Esclave de Camoens," the first act of Bjeldien's "Dame Blanche," and Auber's interesting opera, "Le Maçon," were performed. On Wednesday Auber's "Domino Noir" was represented; and the Opéra Comique season terminated on Friday with Auber's sparkling "Diamans de la Couronne." The lessee has displayed great zeal and activity in this short musical campaign in the production of Halévy's "Val d'Andorre," Hérold's "Zampa," Thomas's "Caid," Adolphe Adam's "Postillon de Lonjumeau," and "Le Roi d'Yvetot," Auber's "Maçon," &c.

ADELPHI.

On Monday, a drama in two acts, by Mr. Douglas Jerrold, was re-produced. It is entitled the "Mother's Dream," having been originally called simply the "Mother," when, about twelve or thirteen years since, first acted at the Haymarket. The interest is of a psychological character. A wife, while insane, becomes a mother, but loses her child before her recovery—the latter having been stolen from her by a vindictive gipsy. But natural instinct is too strong to be thus defeated. She comes into contact with the child, and a mysterious recognition takes place; afterwards confirmed by the testimony of a dying chieftain of the tribe. To bring about this result the aid of somnambulism is resorted to—a state of mind induced by jealousy, for the heroine has been wrought upon to believe that the child is the illicit offspring of her husband. The part is performed by Madame Celeste, and gives occasion for much pantomimic effect. The structure of the piece is extremely simple; but its stage arrangements are picturesque, and there is a species of poetic feeling in it which merits encouragement.

HAYMARKET.

Mr. Douglas Jerrold's excellent comedy of "Time works Wonders" was revived on Tuesday, with much of its original cast; but the heroine, *Florentine*, was performed by Miss Reynolds, instead of Miss Fortescue. The lady acquitted herself well, and added another to the assurances that she has lately given, that we have in her a meritorious and improving *artiste*.

SADLER'S WELLS.

On Wednesday night Shakespeare's great tragedy of "Macbeth" was revived, in a similar but still more correct style of representation with the revival three years ago. Lock's music is omitted; the part of *Lady Macbeth* is restored, together with the over-patetic scene of the murder of her and her children; and the catastrophe is rendered, as Shakespeare meant it, not as a melodramatic stage-combat, but the exposition of the gibbeted murderer and defeated dupe of a sanguinary superstition. The representation derived another advantage on the present, which it had not on the former occasion, in having Miss Glyn as *Lady Macbeth*. Since this now-celebrated actress's first performance of this rôle in London, she has gone the round of nearly all the great female characters in the English drama, and has in all achieved an average, and in some an extraordinary success. She comes, therefore, to a fresh performance of *Lady Macbeth* with a reputation greatly increased, and with powers much enlarged and strengthened by constant and diligent practice in the personation of the most elevated and difficult Shaksperian parts. Her present performance of *Lady Macbeth* fully justifies the training and discipline to which she has been subjected; and the case merits special recording, because it is, perhaps, the first instance in the history of the stage in which a performer has matriculated through a course of training, under the immediate inspection of a metropolitan audience. A trial so severe has generally and prudently been gone through in the provinces, far removed from critical censure, and its results only have been exhibited on the London boards. Despite the difficulties of the task, Miss Glyn has not only survived the ordeal, but come out of it unscathed, and, we should add, with distinguished honour. Her *Lady Macbeth* has, accordingly, now received the advantages of a full study to perfect the conception, and possesses the free and matured use of the *artiste's* powers to render it with full expression. Miss Glyn performed it throughout with finely-developed vigour, and with an energy overwhelming in its effects, chastened by a presiding taste, worthy of the Siddonian school, in which she has now completed her course as a pupil. Her reading of the letter was admirable, and the succeeding soliloquy was delivered with an electric power. Her various interviews with *Macbeth* rose one above another in grandeur. In the murder and the banquet scenes she was self-possessed, appalling, sustained, triumphant—the very heroine of crime—the guardian demon of the crowned assassin—the weird-like accessory and human agent of the mysterious spirits that wait on Nature's mischief—the conscious confederate of "fate and metaphysical aid." But this hell-given strength at last fails; and, in the scene of her somnambulism, conscience again indicates its being, and, with all the force of remorse, compels the unrepenting murderess to suicide: the

Fiend-like Queen,
Who, as 'tis thought, by self and violent hands
Took off her life.

Such is *Macbeth's* account of her end. In this scene of supernaturalism Miss Glyn attains a sublimity which we have not seen exemplified by any other living artist.

The manner in which the tragedy has been placed upon the stage is highly laudable. The reduction of the *Witches* to the original triad contributes much to the dignity of the action, while it confirms the reality of supernatural intervention. Mr. Phelps's *Macbeth* was distinguished by his usual excellences. It was occasionally animated with a wild fire, skilfully indicating the supernatural influence under which he acted; but, throughout, the vehemence of style was regulated with most artistic judgment. Mr. Phelps's *Macbeth* is entitled to take rank with the most excellent assumptions of the present day. We have no doubt that the tragedy will have a considerable run.

On Thursday the domestic tragedy of "Isabella; or, the Fatal Marriage" was performed, the part of the heroine being for the first time represented by Miss Glyn. This character is considered the crowning achievement of dramatic heroines on the British stage. We must, therefore, defer our analysis of the performance until a second opportunity shall make us better acquainted with its especial attributes.

A ball for the benefit of the Jews' Infant School took place on Tuesday night at Willis's Rooms. About 300 individuals were present. The charitable balls in which the members of the Hebrew community are concerned are always distinguished by the brilliancy of the company; and this prevalent characteristic was not concealed last night.

COUNTRY NEWS.

CELEBRATION OF THE MAJORITY OF SIR ROBERT J. BUXTON, BART.—This festive commemoration took place at Shadwell Court, near Thetford, on Wednesday week, and was continued on Thursday and Friday. On Wednesday morning, a procession of children, neatly dressed, made their appearance from the village, and were received by Sir Robert and Lady Buxton at their mansion, and then proceeded to a temporary apartment erected on the lawn, and here morning service was read by the Rev. F. D. Panter. After prayers, Lady Buxton and the two Misses Buxton, sisters of Sir Robert, presented the latter with a peal of bells for the tower of Rushford church. An elegant breakfast to a large circle of friends followed. In the course of the morning, the Norfolk tenantry presented, through Mr. T. Fisher Salter, the agent of Sir Robert Buxton, a magnificent silver salver to the youthful baronet. The park, throughout the day, was open to all visitors. In the evening, a grand dinner and ball were given, in an elegant pavilion, built for the occasion. The guests at the banquet numbered nearly two hundred. The chair was occupied by Sir Montagu Cholmeley, M.P., brother-in-law of Lady Buxton. On his right sat Sir Robert Buxton, and on the immediate left of the chair Lady Buxton. After the loyal toasts had been duly honoured, the President proposed the "health of Sir Robert Buxton," which was drunk with great enthusiasm. Sir Robert returned thanks. Lord Sandwich proposed "the health of Lady Buxton," enjoining the care bestowed by her on her son, and praising with much delicacy her own virtues and charities. The toast was received with three times three cheers. Several other toasts were drunk, including the "Health of the chairman," proposed by Mr. Monckton Milnes, M.P. The company then adjourned to the Park, which was brilliantly illuminated, and here witnessed a splendid display of fireworks. The day's proceedings terminated with a ball. On Thursday there were rural sports in the Park; and on Friday the poor were entertained in great numbers.

THE OWENS COLLEGE, MANCHESTER.—In 1816 the late Mr. John Owens left a splendid bequest, amounting to about £100,000, for the purpose of founding a college in Manchester, and the trustees have now published a report containing a detailed account of the general character and plan of the Institution, in pursuance of the directions of the testator. It is recommended that the subjects of instruction should include classical literature, mathematics, natural philosophy, logic, moral and mental philosophy, history and political philosophy, and the English language and literature, with the addition, as needed, of chemistry, various branches of natural history, physiology, and (with a special view to commercial education), book-keeping, the geography of commercial products, the history and progress of arts and manufactures, and the general principles of commercial jurisprudence. The six more important branches of knowledge are to be confined to as many professors; while the modern languages, book-keeping, and other commercial studies, may be entrusted to occasional teachers and lecturers. The salaries of the professors, it is proposed, should not at first exceed two-thirds of the expected annual income of the trust fund (£3000), or £1700 exclusive of £200 additional to one of the professors, as principal, and of the remuneration of occasional teachers. The committee think it desirable that the Owens College should be placed in connexion with the University of London; but at the same time they invite attention to the important subject of the establishment in Manchester of a university, conferring its own degrees without resort to the metropolitan university.

ST. THOMAS'S, BRAMPTON.—MORMON FUNERAL.—Some excitement prevailed on Sunday last amongst the Mormons, or Latter Day Saints, residing at Brampton and in the neighbourhood, in consequence of the Rev. J. B. Jebb, the incumbent of the district, having intimated to the friend of a member of this community, recently deceased, that he could not conscientiously use the burial service of the Church of England at the funeral, of which they had given him formal notice. The Mormons persisted in their determination to bury the corpse in St. Thomas's churchyard, without the least regard to the remonstrances and advice of the incumbent; and under these circumstances it was doubtful how the matter would end. A little before six o'clock on Sunday evening the funeral procession began to move from Factory-street; the Mormons commenced singing, and attracted a considerable number of persons, who accompanied them from motives of curiosity, by the nearest route towards the church. On arriving at the gate of the churchyard it was found closed; but the procession had scarcely halted when the incumbent appeared in his canonicals, and, taking off his hat, proceeded to read the following protest:—"In the name of God, I, John Berridge Jebb, incumbent of the district of St. Thomas's, Brampton, do hereby solemnly protest against the use of the burial service of the Church of England in this case; and I do hereby declare that it is only because I am compelled by the law of the land, that I allow a member of the community of Mormons, or Latter Day Saints, to be interred according to the rites of the Church in the churchyard of St. Thomas's, Brampton; and I further declare that I cannot knowingly officiate in any future interment of the same kind without doing violence to my conscience." After this, the rev. gentleman shortly addressed the assembly, stating that, if any of those present wished to know the grounds on which his protest had been made, he would readily explain them in the school-room after the service. The Rev. F. Arnold, the curate of the district, then approached the gate, and commenced the service, which was performed in the usual manner. The behaviour of the Mormons during the reading of the protest, and at the service, was decorous and proper. It appears, from the subsequent representations of one of their body, that they do not desire the service of the Church at the burial of their dead, but only the privilege of burying in the churchyard, even without any religious service.

EXTENSIVE ROBBERY OF JEWELLERY AT BIRMINGHAM.—On Thursday night week last, or early on Friday morning, the premises of Mr. Osborne, manufacturing jeweller, Lichfield street, Birmingham, were broken open, and gold, silver, and plated goods, consisting of brooches, guards, pencil-cases, seals, rings, studs, pins, snuff-boxes, &c., amounting in value to between £500 and £600, stolen therefrom. In consequence of previous robberies, the doors and window-shutters were iron-plated, and deemed impregnable. The premises were locked up by the porter soon after ten o'clock. The thieves succeeded in entering the back part of the warehouse by breaking a hole in the wall, and, having thus obtained ingress, by dint of great labour and the use of crowbars, they broke open the interior doors, and found access to the most valuable portions of the stock. No fewer than six crowbars were discovered in the warehouse next morning when the workmen came to their employment. A reward of 100 guineas has been offered for the apprehension of the depredators.

On Saturday night the farm premises of Mr. Till, of Burnham, were destroyed by fire, with the exception of a few sheds. The buildings were insured in the Royal Exchange, and some corn which formed part of their contents in the Sun office. Immediately after this occurrence, another and more extensive fire was observed in the neighbourhood. This resulted in a very large destruction of property on the farm of Mr. Nash, of Langley, about four miles from Burnham. Mr. Nash was also injured. Both fires are believed to be the work of incendiaries, who have of late been very active in the neighbourhood.

EXPLOSION OF FIRE DAMP.—THIRTEEN LIVES LOST.—Between six and seven o'clock on Saturday morning an explosion of fire-damp took place at Messrs. Evans and Turner's colliery, in Haydock, situated about a mile and a half from Newton race-ground (Lancashire). The explosion occurred in what is called the "Rock-pit," and thirteen persons were either burned or smothered to death, some of them being literally burned to a cinder. It appears that eleven of the parties were working in a drift 1000 yards from the pit eye, without any conductor, when the explosion took place, all of whom were burned to death. Two others were working about 120 yards nearer the pit eye, and they, on hearing the explosion, rushed into the face of the fire, instead of making to the pit eye. The names of the sufferers are as follows:—John Durdum and his son (the elder) Ralph, leaving a wife and five children; William Battersby, wife and four children, William Knowles, one child and wife; Ralph Unsworth and John, his son (the elder), leaving a wife and four children; John Glare, leaving a wife and five children; John Holloway, drawer to Glare, killed at the same time; John Simm, James Bailey, Christopher Hesketh, Thomas Glover, and Joseph Hutton—all young men. The men were allowed safety-lamps, if they thought proper to use them; but there does not appear to have been any restriction against working with naked candles, although the men had to run away from the fire the day before the fatal occurrence took place.

MURDERS BY A LUNATIC.—Great consternation was excited on Monday morning in the quiet village of Juniper-green, about five miles south-west of Edinburgh (in the neighbourhood of Currie), by the discovery of the murder of two persons in the house of Dr. Wilson, a resident medical practitioner. The county police were immediately on the spot, and upon entering the house found Dr. Wilson in the kitchen, lying upon his back, quite dead, with his head beaten almost to a jelly. The next object which presented itself was the lifeless body of the aged mother of Dr. Wilson, which was found lying in the passage, apparently on the spot where the unfortunate woman had been struck down and killed. The implements employed in these murders appeared to have been the kitchen poker and tongs. A person named Pearson, who was formerly confined as a lunatic, was apprehended in the house, and has been lodged in the Edinburgh gaol.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT AT ST. VINCENT'S ROCKS, CLIFTON.—On Wednesday morning, at about nine o'clock, an accident of a very shocking kind occurred at Clifton, Bristol, to a young lady named Craven, the daughter of Mr. Craven, solicitor, of the firm of Plummer and Craven. It appears that Mr. Craven's family have been for some time past staying at Clifton for the benefit of their health, and yesterday morning, at about seven o'clock, the young lady in question, who was about 17 or 18 years old, was called by her maid, and was then in her usual health. Afterwards she went out, as was her custom, for the purpose of taking a walk on the Downs, from which, as all who have visited the neighbourhood must be aware, an extensive view of the rivers Avon and Severn, and of the mouth of the Bristol Channel, is obtained. Miss Craven, who is understood to have been near-sighted, unfortunately approached too near the edge of the cliff, and the turf, in consequence of the recent continuance of dry weather, being exceedingly dry and slippery, she misad her footing, and after striking against three or four projecting points of the cliff, was precipitated to the bottom, a depth of nearly three hundred feet. A woman who lives in a cottage below, and two men, all of whom saw the unhappy young lady in the act of falling, immediately hastened to the spot, in the hope of rendering her some assistance, but, of course, all human aid was unavailing. Her skull on the right side was driven in, her limbs fractured, and her body altogether shockingly mutilated. This made the fifth or sixth accident of the kind which has occurred near the same spot during the last six or seven years. Only about twelve months since the Rev. Mr. Hicks, a clergyman of the Church of England, met with his death by falling from the Lion's Head Point, in the same way; and, still more recently, a young lady was precipitated over the rocks, and killed on the spot. The society of merchants, who are lords of the manor-house, caused boards to be erected at different points, cautioning visitors of the danger of walking too near the edge; but it is evident that some more effective measures should be taken.

CHIESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G T.—The second match between Messrs. Bird and Hughes, the former giving the Pawn and two moves, has terminated in favour of Mr. Bird, who won every game. Each party having now won one match, a third, or "conqueror," is expected to come off immediately. ENQUIRER, VIGO.—Mr. Turner, the antagonist of Mr. Stanley in the late match, is a Kentuckian. We should recommend you to withhold your opinion of his play until you have seen more of it. Mr. Stanley speaks in high terms of his ability, and, from the examples before us, we are inclined to think he has not over-rated him.

RIO SIGMA.—Much too easy. F G, R D W L, and other Correspondents, are requested to understand that problems or games in ended for insertion in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, must be sent exclusively to that paper. The practice of forwarding copies of the same communication as original to three or four publications is so extremely discreditable, that we are surprised and sorry to hear of its prevalence.

W L, Dorking.—In your Problem of five moves, suppose Black retire his Bishop to K R 2d, instead of playing Kt to K B 6th, how will you mate? R D M.—You are in error both as regards Problem No. 321 and Enigma 544. The true solution of the former will be given in our next, and the following moves will show the fallacy of your variations on the latter:—1. K to K 7th; 2. Q to her 5th; 3. B to Q B 3d; 4. Q takes B; 5. Kt to Q 7th (ch); 6. K to Q 5th; 7. K takes Q—Mate.

PUTTING.—It shall be repeated next week. CAMILLA.—The Chess pieces received are only miserable imitations of the "Staunton men." We should be glad to know the name of the dealer. R V D.—1. In the late Match between Mr. Stanley and the Kentuckian amateur, Mr. S was the victor. 2. Apply to the Secretary, Gooch and Vulture Hotel, Cornhill. MAJOR L.—You will be certain of getting the genuine men of Leuchars, of Piccadilly, or Lund, of Fleet-street.

J C W.—It is marked for insertion, but you must exercise a little patience. We have at least a hundred equally deserving. SIE G S.—A private communication has been forwarded. NORTH BRITON.—1. You should send your epistle respecting the London and Edinburgh Match to the Chess-Player's Chronicle; our space is much too limited to admit of a controversy on the subject. 2. With pleasure, if a diagram is sent.

SON OF AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.—It is not the custom in this country to say "Check" when attacking an adversary's Queen. SENEX.—Amid the hundreds of communications received by us, it is probable yours was mislaid. The simple course is for you to repeat the questions; and if they come to hand, you may rely upon their being answered.

IGNORAMUS.—You were fairly beaten, your opponent having an undoubted right to claim a Queen for every Pawn she could advance to your first rank. RELLARY.—Thanks. A letter has been forwarded. SUBALTERN.—The French Chess periodical *La Reue* may be got through Messrs Williams and Norgate, the eminent foreign booksellers. OMICRON.—1. Many thanks for the suggestion. 2. The two last, with some slight modifications, will do.

NEMO.—Its only defect now is a want of subtlety. Try again. S G.—omit the 15th move on each side, and all runs smoothly enough. THE BARON, Norwich.—The errors of both omission and commission in the game are such as all young players are guilty of. Study and good practice will soon enable you to correct them.

SOLUTIONS BY J B H, J P, Hythe, J H H, TYRO, Baywater, TYRO, Deal, Q C W, Sheffield, J D, Maynooth, REGY BOY, REV. T M S, REV. R B, RECTOR, RUSTICUS, M P, M O C, ANNABEL, PHOSPHOR, IOTA, NEMO, R S T, JUVENIS, are correct. Those by G A H, P P, HON. SAC, MIGNO, LE BOO, AMICUS, J A W, M E R, KING ALFRED, CANUTE, W J B, GERO, W E H, are wrong.

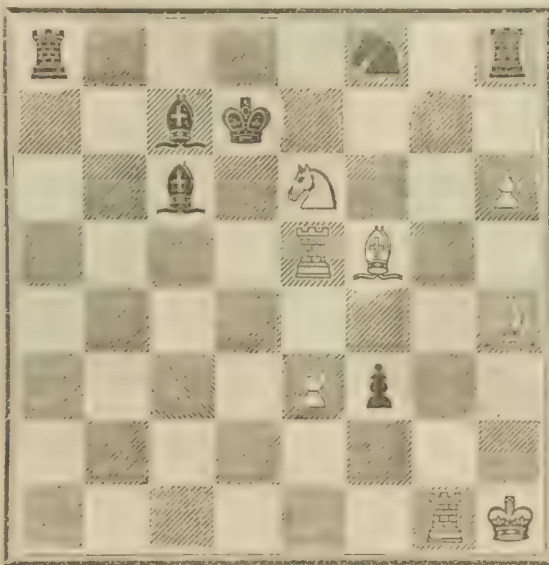
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 321.

By the request of numerous Subscribers, we are induced to withhold the solution of this clever stratagem until next week.

PROBLEM NO. 322.

By E. A. M. M., of Mhow, India.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHIESS IN THE UNITED STATES.

CONTINUATION OF THE GAMES IN THE LATE GREAT MATCH AT WASHINGTON (Guicco Piano.)

BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.
(Mr. J. Turner.)	(Mr. Stanley.)	(Mr. J. Turner.)	(Mr. Stanley.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	18. Q Kt to Q 2d	Q B to K B 4th
2. K Kt to B 3d	Q Kt to B 3d	19. Q Kt to K 4th	Q to Kt 3d
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	20. Q to K B 3d	Q takes Kt
4. P to Q B 3d	Q to K 2d	21. Q takes B	K Kt to B 3d
5. Castle. (a)	P to Q 3d	22. Q to K B 5th	K to Kt s
6. P to Q 4th	K B to Q Kt 3d	23. Q B to R 4th	P to Kt 4th (b)
7. P to K R 3d	K Kt to B 3d	24. Q B to K Kt 3d (c)	K to Kt 2d
8. K R to K sq	Castles	25. P to K R 4th	P to Kt 5th
9. Q B to K Kt 5th	Q Kt to Q sq	26. Kt takes K Kt	Kt takes Kt
10. Q B to K R 4th	P to K R 3d	27. Q takes Kt (ch)	P to Kt 3d
11. Q Kt to Q 2d	K to R sq	28. Q to K B 3d	P to Q B 3d
12. Q B to K Kt 3d	P takes P	29. K B to Q 3d	P to K B 4th
13. P takes P	K Kt to R 2d	30. Q to K B 5th (ch)	K to Kt sq
14. P to K 5th	Q P takes P	31. P takes Q B P	K takes P
15. K Kt takes P	Q to K Kt 4th	32. Q to her 5th (ch)	K to R 2d
16. Q Kt to K B 3d	Q to K B 3d	33. Q takes B	
17. P to Q 5th	K B to Q B 4th		

(a) The usual play now is—5. P to Q 4th; and if the second player take the Pawn, to Castle immediately. Instead of taking the Pawn, he may, however, retreat his K's Bishop, but in any case we think the first player has the advantage. Let us suppose—

BLACK. WHITE.
5. P to Q 4th B to Q Kt 3d
6. P takes K P Kt takes P
7. Kt takes Kt Q takes Kt
(b) Desperate temerity in the face of such a position as Black has got.

(c) The prominent defect in this position is, that when he has gained an advantage, whether of situation or material, he never clinches it. Why this painful and tiresome retreat, when a few bold steps must lead to victory? Let us suppose that he has played instead—

BLACK. WHITE.
24. K B to Q 3d K to Kt 2d
25. K takes K Kt P takes B
26. Q takes P (ch) K to R sq
And White cannot save the game.

* This appears to be as good a move as he can make to avert the fatal consequences of Black's threatened play of the Kt to Q 7th or K Kt 4th.

CHIESS MATCHES IN NEW YORK

Since the termination of the contest at Washington, between Messrs. Stanley and Turner, a match and return match have been played betwixt the latter gentleman and M. Löwenthal, the well-known Hungarian player, with the following result:—

FIRST MATCH.	SECOND MATCH.
Löwenthal 6 games.	Löwenthal 5 games.
Turner 2 "	Turner 2 "
Drawn 2 "	Drawn 1 "
Total 10	Total 8

The best of these games have been politely placed at our disposal; and they will appear in the columns of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS as opportunities occur for their insertion.

CHIESS ENIGMAS.

No. 547.—By "CHECK IN THE EAST."

White: K at his sq, Q at her Kt 6th, R at Q B 2d, Kts at K Kt 2d and Q R 4th, Ps at K 5th and Q B 3d.

Black: K at Q 6th, Q at K B 6th, Rs at K Kt 5th and Q 4th, B at K R 3d, Kts at K B 7th and Q 5th, Ps at K R 6th and Q B 5th.

White to play, and mate in two moves.

No. 548.—By an AMATEUR.

White: K at Q 7th, R at K R 5th, B at Q R 5th; Ps at K 2d, Q 3d, and Q B 2d.

Black: K at Q 4th, R at K 4th, Ps at Q 3d and Q 5th.

White, playing first, mates in four moves.

No. 549.—By Mr. G. S. JELICOE, of Oxford.

White: K at Q R sq, R at Q sq, B at K 2d, Kt at Q 3d; Ps at K Kt 3d and 5th, K B 3d, Q B 5th, and Q Kt 4th.

Black: K at Q 4th; Ps at K R 5th, K Kt 3d, K B 5th, K 3d, Q Kt 4th, and Q R 7th.

White, playing first, to mate in five moves.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The coursing season may be said to have run its length, the Abingdon Open being the only meeting of any character left in the calendar. On the whole, if one or two clubs tell a little short of the average, the campaign may be put down as a very successful one.

Steeple-chasing still shows a bold front, although rapidly approaching its close. The next week, following upon a brilliant one at Warwick, promise well. The fixtures are—Stourbridge on Monday, Cheltenham on Tuesday and Wednesday, and Newcliff (near Shrewsbury) and the West of Scotland on Thursday. The regular "legitimate" season commences on the following Monday, at Catterick, with a bill of fare which does not appear likely to make "April fools" of its patrons.

TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.—An improvement in Belus and Chantrey for the Northamptonshire Handicap, and a decline in the Whim colt for the Chester Cup, were the only decided "movements" this afternoon. Business was very slack.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.		12 to 1 agst Chantrey	
6 to 1 agst Harriott	10 to 1 agst Belus (t)	10 to 1 agst Mahalia	20 to 1 agst Clarissa
7 to 1 agst Ostrley	30 to 1 agst Giselle (t)		

METROPOLITAN HANDICAP—2 to 1 agst Cheerful (t).		2000 GUINEAS STAKES.	
2 to 1 agst Boe Hunter	John O'Grat is declared not to start for this race.	5 to 1 agst Mickleton	

CHESTER CUP.		DERRY.	
22 to 1 agst Cosack (t)	40 to 1 agst Whim Colt (t)	40 to 1 agst Horn of Chase	
30 to 1 agst Lady Evelyn (t)			

6 to 1 agst Billie Callum		20 to 1 agst Voltigeur		40 to 1 agst Hardinge (t)	
7 to 1 agst Bollingbroke (t)	30 to 1 agst Pitsford (t)	40 to 1 agst Nutshell			
11 to 1 agst The Nigger	33 to 1 agst Penang	80 to 1 agst John O'Grat			

THURSDAY.—Nearly all the subscribers being at Warwick, there was no betting at the "Corner" yesterday.

WARWICK SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

MATCH, 100, h. ft., 12st each. Hunt Steeple-Chase Course.—Mr. Robertson's The Ace of Trumps (Capt. Broadley), 1. Lord Lurgan's Sobriety (Capt. Little), 2. The SCURRY STAKES of 5 sovs each, and 20 added.—Mr. Barnard's Jack-of-All-Trades (Mr. Caldwell), 1. Mr. Wilson's Venture (Capt. Little), 2. The TRIAL STAKES of 10 sovs each, and 50 added.—Mr. W. Moseley's Alonzo (W. Sharp), 1. Mr. T. Dawson's nd. Mark Tapley (Arnold), 2. The WILLOWHAY HANDICAP of 15 sovs each, with 30 added.—Mr. Stafford's Fugitive (Capt. Little), 1. Lord Strathmore's Rattrap (Capt. Brook), 2. The FREE HANDICAP of 10 sovs each, and 25 added.—Mr. Mason's Doubt (W. Sharp), 1. Mr. Jones's Docility (Thick), 2. The FARMERS' PLATE of £50.—Mr. Gulliver's Fazeley (Mr. Wood), 1. Mr. W. Cowper's Jerry (Owner), 2.

WEDNESDAY.

DEBDALE STAKES of 5 sovs each, and 25 added.—Mr. D. T. Cunynghame nd Castaway (late Homocopathy) (Mr. Elwes), 1. Col. Shirley's Fugleman (Mr. Davenport), 2. HANDICAP of 5 sovs each, and 20 added.—Mr. Bingley's Christiana (Thick), 1. Mr. Williams nd Mrs Julia (Neale), 2. TWO-YEAR-OLD STAKES of 10 sovs each, and 50 added.—Mr. Merry's Louis Napoleon (Prince), 1. Mr. F. Stevens's Britannia (Wakefield), 2. GREAT WARWICKSHIRE HANDICAP of 25 sovs each.—Mr. Irwin's Ballinafad (H. Bell), 1. Mr. Lawson's Keleshea (Evans), 2. SWEEPSTAKES of 5 sovs each, and 25 added.—Lord Clifden's Cotton Lord (Pearl), 1. Mr. Green's Haidee (Whitehouse), 2.

LEAMINGTON STEEPLE-CHASE—THURSDAY.

GRAND MILITARY STEEPLE-CHASE FOR THE GOLD CUP.—Hawkesworth, 1. Treasurer, 2. VETERAN STAKES.—No race.

IRELAND.

ABOLITION OF THE VICE-ROYALTY.—A meeting was convened on Thursday week, in Dublin, in accordance with the following requisition, which has been addressed to the high-sheriff of Dublin, in the absence of the Lord Mayor:—"A rumour has been for some time prevalent, which we have hitherto regarded as wholly unworthy of credit, that the office of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland was about being abolished, but which the announcement of the Prime Minister, in answer to an inquiry made to him on the subject, proves to be too well founded. We, the undersigned inhabitants of Dublin, of all creeds and professions, therefore request that you will call, at your earliest convenience, a meeting for the purpose of petitioning against a measure which will, if carried, inevitably bring desolation upon this city and its trade." The signatures comprised a long array of bankers, merchants, and tradesmen, both Radical and Conservative.

THE LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN.—At a meeting of the corporation of Dublin, held on Tuesday, a motion censuring the absence of Mr. Reynolds, the Lord Mayor, from his post, was, after a warm debate, adjourned for another week to give Mr. Reynolds an opportunity of being present.

The next annual exhibition of the Royal Irish Agricultural Society is to be held in Cork.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN ULSTER.—It appears from the accounts from the northern provinces, that the recent act against party processions has been most effective in preserving the peace. The *Belfast Chronicle* says:—"From all the inquiries we have been enabled to make, we have every reason to believe that St. Patrick's Day passed over in perfect tranquillity." The *Newry Telegraph* has a statement to the same effect, to which it adds the following:—"Castlewellan-ward accounts have reached to the effect that there were no processions, nor any sort of political display."

THREATENED RESIGNATION OF THE MINISTRY.—A meeting of members of Parliament, supporters of the present Government, took place on Tuesday, at Downing-street. About 160 were present. Lord John Russell addressed the meeting. He told them that if Mr. Hutt's motion for that evening, relative to the slave-trade, were carried, he would certainly resign the office he held. Mr. Hume did not see the necessity of Lord John Russell giving up office, even if Mr. Hutt carried his motion. Lord Palmerston repeated what Lord John Russell had stated as the course he should himself follow. Lord Harry Vane and Mr. E. Denison both spoke in favour of Mr. Hutt's motion. The meeting then separated, the general feeling being that it would form matter of grave consideration how to vote on this occasion. The result is seen by our Parliamentary report.

ASSOCIATION FOR DIFFUSING PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE.—The first metropolitan meeting of this association was held on Tuesday, at the Mechanics' Institute, Southampton-buildings; Mr. B. B. Cabell, M.P., in the chair. Mr. Joseph Bentley, the secretary and lecturer of the association, said that, in the ten months during which it had been carrying on its operations in the provinces, 170 lectures had been delivered, the average attendance at which was 316. He had made minute inquiries into the physical and moral condition of the lower classes in every place he had visited, and regretted to say that mendicancy, pauperism, and crime had increased during the last twelve years; but these evils were now on the decrease, owing chiefly to fiscal causes. The association proposed to give a series of similar practical lectures simultaneously in various parts of the metropolis. The meeting having been addressed by Mr. C. Cochrane, Mr. Hutt, and other gentlemen, resolutions were passed approving of the objects of the society, and calling upon it to commence the proposed lectures without delay; and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF LONDON.—ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF ALEXANDRIA.—On Thursday, the annual dinner of this society took place at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, to commemorate the victory of Alexandria; Lieutenant-General Sir James Macdonnell in the chair, supported by Sir T. M. Wilson, the Chisholm, Major-General Sir John Rait, Sir John Campbell, Captain J. Forbes, Colonel Crabb, Sir Charles Forbes, M.D., &c.; numbering in all about a hundred gentlemen, many of whom were dressed in the Highland costume. The dinner was of a peculiarly national character, and during the entertainment the boys of the Caledonian A-ylum paraded round the room, playing the Scotch pipes, and headed by Angus Mackay, the Queen's piper, and Donald Mackay; piper to the Highland Society. Mr. Moody and Mr. Cooper were in attendance for the purpose of supplying the musical portion of the entertainment, and the former sang several Scotch songs, which tended to increase the enthusiasm of the guests. The usual loyal toasts having been drunk, the chairman proposed the "Navy and Army." Captain Forbes returned thanks on the part of the navy, and bore testimony to the bravery of Sir Ralph Abercromby and those who served under him at Alexandria. He (Captain Forbes) served in that battle, and one of the grandest sights he ever witnessed was the fighting of the British navy on that memorable occasion. Sir John Rait acknowledged the compliment on behalf of the army, and alluded in the most eulogistic terms to the gallant conduct of Sir James Macdonnell—the hero of Hougoumont—on the field of Waterloo. The Chairman next proposed "The memory of Abercromby, and the heroes who fell with him in Egypt." The toast having been drunk in solemn silence, the chairman proposed "Health and long life to those gentlemen who had survived the glorious campaign which they had this day met to celebrate." Sir John Rait returned thanks, and took the opportunity of singing a song illustrative of the naval and military achievements of the gallant sons of Scotland. Mr. Guthrie then proposed the President of the Highland Society, Lieutenant-General Sir James Macdonnell, and in doing so he drew attention to the merits of the Highland Society of London. The chairman having acknowledged the compliment, several other toasts were successively proposed and warmly responded to. Amongst them were "The Duke of Wellington," "Chiefs and Clans," "The East India Company's Service," "Sword and Plaid," "Pipe and Banner," &c. The national enthusiasm was kept up throughout the evening, and the company separated between eleven and twelve o'clock.

JUNCTION OF THE MIDLAND AND LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAYS AT BIRMINGHAM.—The contract for the construction of this connecting loop has been obtained by Messrs. Branson and Gwyther, the eminent builders and railway contractors, of Belmont-row, Birmingham.

EXHIBITION OF ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL ART.

On Monday, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, attended by Colonel Bouverie, visited the Society of Arts, in John-street, Adelphi, for the purpose of inspecting this Exhibition previous to its being opened to the public. The Prince was received by the Earl of Enniskillen, Mr. Franks, the hon. secretary, Mr. Hope, M.P., Mr. Botfield, M.P., and the gentlemen forming the committee under whose direction this temporary museum has been formed. His Royal Highness expressed himself much gratified; and, indeed, there is here presented so much that is interesting in an antiquarian, historical, and artistic point of view, that this Exhibition can hardly fail to prove highly attractive to all classes of the community. Many, perhaps, who are aware of the inestimable treasures contained in the private cabinets of our nobility and gentry, or which are jealously guarded as precious heirlooms in the coffers of the various colleges and corporate bodies to which they belong, have yet never had any opportunity of examining the numerous specimens of ancient

culture under which alone the universal appreciation of the *beau ideal* could have been acquired by and fostered amongst them. That the Romans were not slow to recognise this fact, is evident from the adoption both of their style of architecture, and also of the design of many of their utensils in general use; nor was it till the decline of the Empire and the corruption in taste that ensued from excess of luxury, and an increasing intimacy with barbaric nations, that the antique severity of form gave place to the more florid and composite style which immediately preceded the Byzantine era, and which finally proved destructive of anything like simple ideality in art, i.e. art which has the power of pleasing without the adventitious aid of a redundancy of ornament.

It cannot be supposed, however, that the dexterity of handicraft which had been gradually acquired should not have left us some permanent traces of its existence; consequently, although the indications that remain to us of the skill of the artisan during those which are emphatically termed the "dark ages" are necessarily very few, still we might have expected there would have been more specimens illustrative of this particular epoch.

At length the general introduction of Christianity, and the stimulus afforded to the mechanic by the piety of its early professors (creating a demand for the embellishment of their churches and private oratories), introduced a new and necessarily more conventional style of art; and from the tenth to the close of the fifteenth centuries, the specimens of what may be called "Medieval art" are not only very numerous and curious, but afford undoubted proof of the genius and taste of the artisans of those periods which we are now too apt to consider as utterly rude and unpolished. The reminiscences, too, of an age of chivalry and religious enthusiasm appeal strongly to the beholder in behalf of this section of the Exhibition; and it is to the Crusaders' armour, the jewelled crosier, the carved triptych, the enamelled or highly-wrought reliquary, the sacramental chalice, and the enriched Gothic monstrance, that it will doubtless owe much of its interest. Proceeding to illustrate this class of objects, we have selected a Pyx, or Ciborium, from the museum of the Archaeological Institute. This was the vessel in which the paten or holy wafer for sacramental purposes was kept; and the will of Henry VII. supplies us with some curious particulars. From



CANDLESTICK.



VASE.

WARE OF HENRY II. OF FRANCE.



SALT-CELLAR.

art which now (we believe, for the first time in this metropolis) have been systematically collected and chronologically arranged; indeed, it is doubtful whether such an opportunity may ever again occur; and it should be borne in mind that, on the present occasion, the twofold object has been kept in view, of conveying useful information and practical instruction to the modern artisan, and of affording that gratification which every cultivated mind must feel in the contemplation of all that is rare and exquisite in art.

It had long been felt that an Exhibition of this description would have a beneficial effect, and various plans for forming one have at different times been suggested; but these attempts have hitherto proved abortive, owing to the difficulties with which the execution of them was surrounded. It was felt, too, that no time could be more appropriate than the present to make an effort for carrying out this long-mooted idea, when, pending the Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations in 1851, it had become in the highest degree desirable that every facility should be afforded for illustrating the degree of excellence

formerly attained in many branches of art now almost obsolete. Accordingly, early in the year (at the pressing instance of some members of the Archaeological Institute) a committee was formed to act in conjunction with that of the Society of Arts, and consisting of noblemen and gentlemen engaged in antiquarian pursuits. His Royal Highness Prince Albert having consented to act as President, and her Majesty having graciously permitted many of the valuable specimens from Wind-

sor Castle to be exhibited, the possessors of works of art have not been slow to follow the illustrious example thus set them, and have placed their treasures at the disposal of the committee: the result has far exceeded the most sanguine anticipations of success.

Owing to the immunity which we have so long happily enjoyed from intestine commotions or political revolutions, whilst so many of the nations of Europe have been convulsed, this country has become the receptacle of some of the best productions of those great masters who would only otherwise be known to us by their fame; and when it is considered that few of the objects here exhibited do not possess some private episodes, lending them increased interest in addition to their intrinsic value, it will readily be understood that it has been a matter of no little difficulty to select such subjects for illustration as will be most generally acceptable to our readers.

Commencing, therefore, with the earliest periods, we give the following groups of antique Roman bronzes from the cabinet of the Hon. Richard Neville, which, besides presenting a beauty of form not unworthy of Herculaneum, are curious as affording us a specimen of the Roman metal-work during their occupation of Britain—these vases having been found in a barrow at Thornbrough, in Buckinghamshire.

Sir John P. Boileau, Bart. has also contributed several specimens of antique art; and the graceful design of the Roman drinking vase exhibited by him is not unworthy of modern imitation.

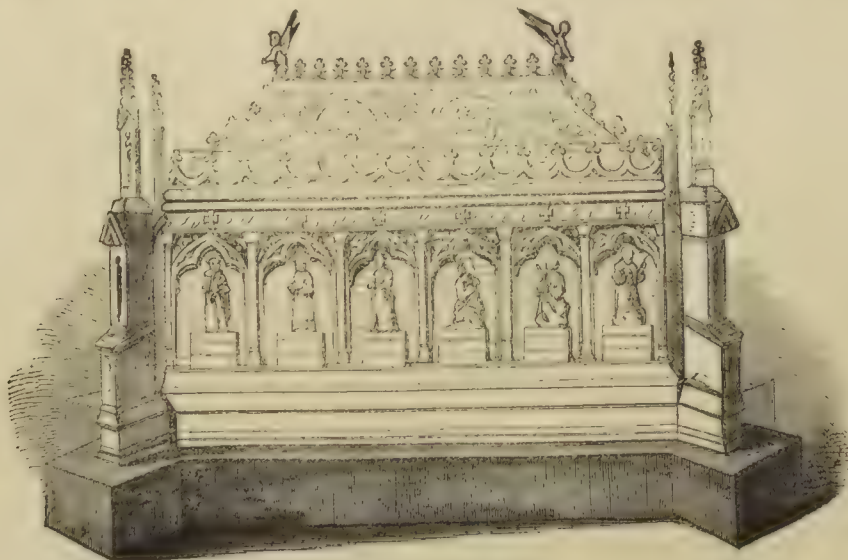
There are also some very beautiful Etruscan and Greek vases, exhibited by Mr. Auldjo. But it must be admitted that this Exhibition is rather deficient in numerous examples of classic art—and it should not be forgotten that we are principally indebted to the Greeks for the purest forms as models even at the present day; nor have succeeding ages ever been able to surpass those extraordinary productions of the plastic art, which could only have emanated from a people who had attained the height of excellence in design, and reached a degree of mental

this we learn that for the purpose of furnishing all such parish churches as only possessed one of "copre or tymbre," he directs that a great number of these Pyxes shall be made of silver, and gilt, each of the value of £4; and then describes how that the said Pyxes shall be "garnished with our armes and rede roses, and portecolis crowned." It is worthy of remark, however, that of all the vessels so ordered, few, if any, remain: perhaps, from the circumstance of having the Royal arms engraved on them, they were regarded as family plate by the next successor to the crown, and appropriated accordingly!!

Not the least remarkable of these religious emblems are the shrines or caskets in which the relics of Saints were kept, and which were consequently often set with precious stones of immense value. There is one in the Cathedral of Cologne, decorated with jewels valued at more than £250,000; and the cost and artistic skill lavished on those even of more modest pretensions evince the great care and labour usually bestowed on their production. The beautiful example below of one of the fifteenth century is from the collection of Mr. Magniac. It is of silver gilt, relieved—having figures of Christ and the Apostles placed round it, in canopied niches—and derives a striking effect from the pinnacled buttresses placed at its angles. Although its history is involved in obscurity, the simplicity and elegance of its design attract immediate attention, in preference to those more elaborately-enriched reliquaries, of which there are several in the Exhibition, from the Cathedral of Basle and elsewhere. Several of these shrines are enamelled by artists of Limoges; and amongst other names of scarcely inferior note those of Jean Courtois and Leonard of Limousin may be recognised. But, as it is impossible to do justice to the colours of these exquisite enamels by wood-engravings, it is to be hoped that they will not be



METAL PYX.



SILVER-GILT SHRINE.



ROMAN DRINKING VASE.

overlooked by Mr. Shaw, in his work on the "Decorative Art of the Middle Ages."

Want of space compels us to abbreviate our notice of this portion of the Exhibition, to which the Hon. Robert Curzon, Mr. Hailstone, Rev. Drs. Wiseman and Rock, have largely contributed, and on which we would willingly have lingered; although undoubtedly the period of the Renaissance, or Cinque-Cento, which we now approach, is that which has contributed most largely, and perhaps most usefully, to the objects had in view, and therefore demands most attention.

Words, indeed, can scarcely convey an idea of the magnificence of the works of those great men, whose talent was principally fostered by the patronage of the Italian merchant princes of the fifteenth century; and the bust of Lorenzo de' Medici, executed in terra cotta by Michael Angelo, could not be more appropriately placed than amidst many of the *chef-d'œuvres* of those very artists whose skill was acquired in the schools and *ateliers* of Florence founded and supported by his munificence and that of his illustrious family. The wares of Raffaele and Luca della Robbia, with those of France and Germany, may each in turn afford a



CLOTHWORKERS COMPANY'S CUP (PEPYS'S).

hint to the Birmingham or Staffordshire manufacturer, and of these specimens of pottery there is an endless variety. The elaborate Salt-cellar and Candlestick, which we have been enabled to illustrate, form part of the collections of Baron Lionel de and Sir A. Rothschild; and the beautiful white Ewer is the property of Mr. Magniac. These three are fine examples of the ware of Henry II. of France, the secret of making which is now completely lost.

It may not be out of place here also to call attention to the quantity of beautiful Venetian glass, chiefly the property of the Duke of Buccleugh, Mr. Auldjo, and Mr. Farrer, but of which the fine tazza belonging to Sir Charles Price, Bart., presents one of the most elegant examples.

It is a popular fallacy to suppose that glass is, comparatively speaking, a modern invention, and that, too, in spite of numerous vessels, of decidedly Roman manufacture, having been repeatedly found even in England. The Venetians acquired the art (which had probably been almost lost during the dark ages) from Byzantium; together with that of making blood cameos, for which the capital of the Eastern Empire was once so celebrated. Of these there may yet be seen some few interesting specimens in the museums of Vienna, having the early Christian symbols engraved on them. The principal period, however, at which the manufacture of glass flourished at Venice or Murano seems to have been about the middle of the fifteenth century; and few, if any, of the objects exhibited, can claim a higher antiquity than this, although, from an elaborate description in an old MS. of a glass crucifix in the church of the Dominicans, at Treviso, it is manifest that even as early as the year 1170 they had had acquired great perfection in the art.

Unquestionably, however, the chief attraction consists in the metal works of the celebrated Benvenuto Cellini, who was born at Florence in the year 1500, and, having been patronized at the Court of Francis I. of France, a fitting the tre was afforded him for the execution of those great masterpieces which have rendered his name so famous. The Founder's Cup, from Emanuel College, Cambridge, of which we annex a representation, is a good specimen of his skill, and there are several others in the room, from Windsor Castle.



BRONZE VASES.—ROMANO-BRITISH.

The election cup of the Clothworkers' Company, which is commonly called "Pepys's cup," probably because it was presented to them by Samuel Pepys, who, we find, was master in the year 1677, is here given; as are, also, representations of the three Hanaps belonging to the Carpenters' Company, and which were the gifts of sundry masters and wardens in the years 1611 and 1612. At first sight, it strikes us as somewhat singular, that, of the numerous grace-cups or wassail-



TERRA COTTA BUST OF LORENZO DE' MEDICI, BY MICHAEL ANGELO.

bowls exhibited by the City companies, none bear the stamp of any very high antiquity; but this will cease to be matter of surprise when it is considered how often in times past the liveries were called upon to make contributions (sometimes facetiously termed "Benevolences") towards the support of foreign wars, by which means they were perpetually impoverished. Even so lately as in the year 1643, during the Civil War, most of the companies were obliged to sell, pawn, or melt up their plate, in order to be enabled to comply with the requisitions of the Parliamentary Commissioners. The goldsmiths, indeed, in the year 1667, sold the greater part of their old plate for the purpose of repairing their hall; and this circumstance will partly account for the fact that they have made no contributions in aid of the present occasion. Not always, however, did the good citizens of London submit with a good grace to these excessive exactions; for we find that a requisition being made upon them in the reign of King Richard II., which they resisted, the Mayor and Aldermen were deposed; for, saith the old chronicler, "Yei would not lend him (the Kyng) a thousand pounds, and ye Kyng prived them of their libertie, and ordeined that they should no meyr have, but a wardeyn." A summary method of raising the necessary supplies, which, if it could be successfully practised in these times, would not only save her Majesty's Chancellor of the Exchequer much perplexity, but operate as a wholesome check on the clamorous diatribes of some of her faithful Commons.

The real connoisseur in art will not fail to bestow due attention on the beautiful carvings in wood and ivory, which, indeed, are amongst the chief attractions. There is a series of tablets, the property of Mr. Vulliamy, carved in ivory by Fiamingo, representing Bacchantes, which is probably one of the most successful efforts of this celebrated master. Many of the triptychs are very remarkable for the intricacy and extreme delicacy of their design and execution; and, strange as the remark may appear (when it is considered of what comparatively perishable materials this class of ancient work is composed), it is yet no less true, that it affords more accurate information of the peculiarities of style from the twelfth to the seventeenth centuries than any other species of art. Where all have done their best to assist in promoting the objects of this Exhibition, it may seem invidious to particularise any one specimen, except for the purpose of illustration, and we have been obliged to postpone giving the Engravings of the celebrated rosary belonging to Henry VIII., now in the possession of the Duke of Devonshire, and one or two other examples of ancient carving, until a future Number of the Journal, in consequence of the extreme skill required from our Artists in order to do full justice to them. There is a fine carving in stone of the portrait of the Emperor Maximilian and ascribed to Albert Durer; it is the property of her Majesty, and bears the impress of a masterly hand both in its boldness of design and perfect manipulation. The antique sardonyx cameos, contributed by Lord de Manley, are also very fine examples.

The beautiful carved ivory Tankard, of which we subjoin the representation, is the property of Baron Lionel de Rothschild, and is of Flemish workmanship. It is richly mounted in silver, and the allegorical figures surrounding it are thrown out in bold relief.

The fact cannot be disguised, however, that, acceptable as this Exhibition is not unlikely to prove in a utilitarian point of view, it owes its origin chiefly to those causes which of late have induced so many men of leisure and learning to devote so much of their time to the study of the science of archæology as a useful accessory to that of history; it is also attributable, in no small degree, to that feeling of reverence for all that relates to our forefathers, which seems inherent, fortunately, in the breast of every Englishman. At the private view on Tuesday last, the rooms were crowded from 10 A.M. till 10 P.M. with the *élite* of the fashionable world; and certes, to judge from the number of the fair sex who were present, it were a libel on them to assert that antiquity has no charm for them.

The clock and watch work, which has been (with some few exceptions) almost entirely contributed by Mr. Octavius Morgan, M.P., will not fail to attract the notice of the cognoscenti in this subject; though it may be doubtful whether it would be altogether safe to work the longitude at sea by one of those venerable warming-pans, with their cat gut mainsprings, in preference to a chronometer made by McCabe or Dent. There is one watch, however, of which we cannot omit mention, since there is a degree of historical interest attached to it, from its having once been the property of that ill-fated monarch, Charles I., by whom it was given to Sir Thomas Herbert, as he was being conducted to the scaffold

on the morning of his execution. It remains as an heirloom in his family, and is here exhibited by Mr. Mitford.

Having endeavoured to lay before our readers a brief recital of the more prominent features of this Exhibition, we can only now refer them for further details to the Catalogue itself; the compilation of which under circumstances of great difficulty, reflects much credit upon Mr Isaacs, by whom (subject to the classification adopted by the committee) it was principally prepared; albeit it might have been perhaps more satisfactory, had a more strictly chronological arrangement been attended to.

The tapestry surrounding the room was kindly lent for the purpose by the Earl of Granville and Mr. Webb, of Bond-street; and the suits of armour and ancient weapons, which have been tastefully arranged, were placed at the disposal of the committee by the Master-General of the Ordnance. In addition to the companies we have named, the Fishmongers, Sadlers, Ironmongers, Mercers, and Barber-Surgeons have each sent some antique specimen to aid in forming this museum.



FOUNDER'S CUP, EMANUEL COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

It has not been found possible to prepare illustrations of many of the specimens of the greatest interest in time for this day's Journal. Our Artists are now busily engaged in making fac similes (by her Majesty's permission) of the works from the Royal Cabinet; but as it is a work of time to give due effect to the beauty and extreme minuteness of these objects, we have been compelled to postpone the notice of these, and the various other subjects selected for the engraver, until a future Number.

We cannot conclude these observations, however, without remarking that the arts will ever flourish most where the best encouragement is afforded them. We have seen how the enlightened policy and liberal patronage of many of the potentates of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries produced men whose genius shed lustre on themselves, their country, and the age in which they lived; the time is now at hand when the "merchant princes" of England (by emulating those of Italy in bygone ages) may testify that they are not indifferent to the light in which they will be regarded by the future historian of these eventful times.



IVORY TANKARD.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15.

WAR-OFFICE, MARCH 15.

1st Regiment of Life Guards: F G Haro, to be Cornet and Sub-Lieut, vice Sir W A Fraser, Bart.
Royal Regiment of Horse Guards: The Hon J B J Dormer to be Cornet, vice Lord Ribblesdale.
1st Dragoon Guards: A R G Everard to be Cornet, vice Birt. 5th: H H M'Neill to be Cornet, vice Inglis; Staff Surgeon of the Second Class, G K Pittafrin, M.D., to be Surgeon, vice J Barlow.
4th Light Dragoons: Capt J T D Halkett to be Major, vice Fane; Lieut C B Molynoux to be Capt, vice Halkett; Cornet C Bransford to be Lieut, vice Molynoux. 8th: J C H Halkett to be Cornet, vice Clutterbuck. 9th: J G Willis to be Cornet, vice Fane. 14th: E Ford to be Cornet, vice Dudgeon. 17th: Lieut R D H Lane to be Capt, vice Fleming; Cornet A F C Webb to be Lieut, vice Lane.
1st, or Grenadier Regiment of Foot Guards: J Murray to be Ensign and Lieut, vice Hotham. 1st Foot: M A H Legge to be Ensign, vice Fugh. 2d: Lieut R Inglis to be Capt, vice Hotham. 1st: Lieut J H Rocks to be Ensign, vice Inglis; Lord C E H H to be Ensign, vice Rocks. 4th: Lieut S B M Skinner to be Lieutenant, vice Morgan. 8th: Lieut G A Morcan to be Lieutenant, vice Skinner. 14th: Lieut G S Tyler to be Lieutenant, vice Slater; W Heywood to be Ensign, vice Hawley. 15th: G F Christie to be Ensign, vice Tait. 18th: Lieut-Gen Sir J F Fitzgerald, K.C.B., to be Colonel, vice Gen Lord Aylmer, G.C.B. 21st: Lieut W F Ring to be Captain, vice Brevet-Major Mackay; E A T Stewart to be Second-Lieutenant. 23rd: Ensign W H Newenham to be Lieut, vice Taylor; Ensign J O'Hara to be Ensign, vice Newenham. 26th: Captain W H Hussey to be Captain, vice B G Lard; Ensign Charles Lord Lurgan to be Ensign, vice Thistlethwaite. 32nd: Edmond de Loinville-Joly to be Ensign, vice Lawrence. 34th: W H Pownall to be Ensign, vice Pownall. 41st: F C High to be Ensign, vice Bertram; H S Bush to be Ensign, vice Pownall. 56th: Acting Assistant-Surgeon W L Cabot to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice May. 58th: Lieut J A C Pelly to be Captain, vice Brevet-Major Matson; Ensign G J H Wynyard to be Lieutenant, vice Pelly. 62nd: Major-General J Ferguson, C.B., to be Colonel, vice Lieut-Gen Sir J F Fitzgerald. 75th: Assist-Surg J S Willes, M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Martin. 87th: E H Prescott to be Second-Lieutenant, vice Gen. 88th: Acting Assist-Surg J Irvine, M.D., to be Assistant-Surgeon, vice Willes. 91st: W B Battiscombe to be Ensign, vice Saunders; G Spright to be Ensign, vice Sargent. 96th: G A Warburton to be Ensign, vice Moffatt.
1st West India Regiment: W B Bower to be Ensign, vice McNamee. 3rd: Lieut G Slater to be Lieutenant, vice Tyler.
HOSPITAL STAFF.—Surgeon E J Burton, M.D., to be Staff-Surgeon of Second Class, vice Fleatun; Staff Assistant Surgeon T Koon, M.D., to be Staff-Surgeon of the Second Class.

BANKRUPTS.

M BATTEN, Kintbury, Berks, sheep dealer. J McGUFFIE, New-road, Whitechapel, draper. P FIELDING, Killy, Flintshire, hotel keeper. J HARBIDGE, Isip, Oxfordshire, miller. S FIRTH, Leeds, linen-draper. G PALMER, Langmere, Norfolk, cattle dealer. T GARRETT, Stowmarket, Suffolk, coachmaker and currier. B SMITH, Threadneedle-street, City, Bow-common, Middlesex, and Duke-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, silversmith.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19.

LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE, FEB. 21.

Notice is hereby given, that his Royal Highness Prince Albert will, by the desire of her Majesty, hold a levee at St. James's Palace, on behalf of her Majesty, on Wednesday, 20th March next, at two o'clock. It is her Majesty's pleasure that presentations to his Royal Highness at these levees shall be considered equivalent to presentations to the Queen. Addresses to the Queen may either be forwarded to her Majesty through the Secretary of State for the Home Department, or may be received until her Majesty shall hold a levee.

CROWN OFFICE, MARCH 18.

The Peers of Scotland elected and chosen to sit and vote in the House of Peers in the present Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland: viz. the Right Hon the Earl of Airlie and the Lord Blantyre, in the room of David Earl of Airlie, and John Lord Colville, of Culross, deceased.

BANKRUPTS.

J HARBIDGE (and not HARBIDGE), as in last Friday's Gazette, Isip, Oxfordshire, miller. J SPICER, Barking, blacksmith. C COVE, Horncchurch, Essex, builder. J B BALCOMBE, late of Cannon street, City, sharebroker. J BEDFORD, Bath, musicseller. W GORE, Liverpool, wheelwright.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

A BANNERMAN, Helmsdale, Sutherlandshire, merchant. J FERGUSON, Glasgow, calico-printer. W BELL, Haddington, clothier. J WADELL, jun, Starnair, near Airdrie, coal-master. A CRICHTON, Edinburgh, printer. J SMART, Links, Montrose, farmer.

BIRTHS.

At Monellan House, county of Donegal, Ireland, the Lady Mary Hewitt, of a daughter.—The lady of the Rev C Stroud Green, M.A., rector of St Ann's, Lewes, of a son.—At Humber Rectory, Herefordshire, the wife of the Rev Allan Cowburn, of a son.—At Horton Kirby, Kent, the wife of the Rev H B Rashleigh, of a daughter.—At Holme Cottage, Ashbourne, Derbyshire, the lady of T Follitt Powell, Esq, late Captain 16th Lancers, of a daughter.—At Sackville Cottage, East Grinstead, the wife of the Rev J M Neale, of a daughter.—At Ithacan Park, Tipperary, the lady of Captain T F H Alms, late of the 70th Regiment, of a daughter.—March 17th, the wife of Alfred Waring, Esq, of Hallowbrook, Henbury, Gloucestershire, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

At St George's, Hanover-square, Joseph Lewis, Esq, Royal Navy, to Henrietta Sarah, daughter of the late Major-General Yates.—At Adrianople, at the British Consulate, Baron Alexander Philip Monti, Colonel in the service of a Majesty the King of Sardinia, to Sarah Maria, eldest daughter of William Walsdale, Esq, her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Adrianople.—At Capington Castle, Ayrshire, the Rev William Henry Cooper, only son of the Rev John Mawbey Cooper, of Deeping, St James's, Lincolnshire, rector of Jockleton, in the county of Leicester, to Joanna, only daughter of John Smith Cunningham, Esq, of Capington.

DEATHS.

The Countess of Scarborough, in her eighty fifth year.—Lady Mary Hewitt, wife of the Hon James Hewitt, and eldest daughter of the late Earl of Gosford.—At his official residence in St James's Palace, Sir Thomas Marriable, Kt, aged sixty-three.—At Larga, N.B., Arthur Henry Cave, youngest son of Commander W B Thomas, R.N., inspecting Commander of Coast Guard.—At Hillingdon-ens, Uxbridge, Mrs Elizabeth Grange, in the 44th year of her age.—March 8th, at Park-lane, Bath, aged 29 years, Amy Georgiana, youngest daughter of the late Samuel Whittick, Esq, of Hallowbrook, Gloucestershire.

WATER-CARRIERS AT HAMPSTEAD IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

THE inquiries which have lately been made relative to the water supply of London, have led to complaints of its bad quality and deficient quantity, from most districts of the metropolis; but nowhere, probably, has a worse state of things, in this respect, been disclosed than in the pleasant suburban town of Hampstead. Little more than four miles from London, this charming locality has been for a century and a half the abode of rich merchants, bankers, professional men, and others in the City, who have here fixed their country residences, and found health and retirement in its delightful walks and drives. The parish of Hampstead is situated on the hills north-west of London, the highest part of which, Jack Straw's Castle, is said to be on a level with the top of St. Paul's. The population, at the present time, consists of about 12,000 persons, and the number of houses is about 1500, a large part of which are of the more respectable class. But Hampstead owes everything to its natural advantages. Although it boasts of a class of resident gentry not second in wealth to that of any other suburb of London, the artificial aids to promote home comfort appear, either from indifference or indolence, to have been sadly neglected. The water of Hampstead is supplied from wells and springs, mostly having mineral properties, which render it unfit for domestic uses. The soft water used for domestic purposes is supplied chiefly from two springs at the opposite and extreme ends of the town, the one being at North End, and the other, of which we furnish an engraving, is at a place called "The Conduit," in the fields on the south side of Hampstead. At this place, a number of men may be seen occupied at all hours of the day, and, in the summer season, at all hours of the night, filling their pails, which they carry with the aid of yokes, and sell to the inhabitants at the rate of three-halfpence or twopence a "turn," according to the distance, the "turn" being two pails. At times, in the hot weather, this spring, the "Conduit," becomes so nearly exhausted that the carriers are obliged to wait for the water rising, and fill their pails by means of common earthenware basins, which the carriers call "dippers." It is easy to see how very insufficient and expensive a supply of water thus obtained must be for the use of a large population. House drainage, without water, cannot exist in any sufficient way; and, in case of fire, there is no supply accessible to the engines. The poorer class of people are wholly dependant for their water upon pumps, often at a distance from their houses; and, if they have not the money to buy soft water, they are compelled to use the hard water, which, from its being impregnated with iron, is ill adapted for domestic purposes. There is now a prospect, that, through the instrumentality of the London and Watford Company, who propose to supply Hampstead, and whose scheme is in great favour with the inhabitants, this serious evil will soon be removed, and many houses will be furnished with an abundant supply of pure soft water.

In addition to its delightful walks and drives, its diversified and charming views, there are many pleasant recollections associated with Hampstead. In the early part of the last century, it rose from a small village, occupied at an early period by washerwomen, to a fashionable watering-place, having its mineral spa, assembly and card-rooms, raffish shops, gardens, and other similar amusements. A comedy performed at Drury Lane, in 1706, called "Hampstead Heath," gives an idea of the place at that time.

Smart.—"Assemblies so near town, give us a sample of each degree. We have court ladies that are all air and no dress; city ladies that are overdressed, and no air; and country dames with broad brown faces like a Stepney bun; besides an endless number of Fleet-street sempstresses, that dance minuets in their furbiolous scarfs, and their clothes hang as loose about them as their reputations."

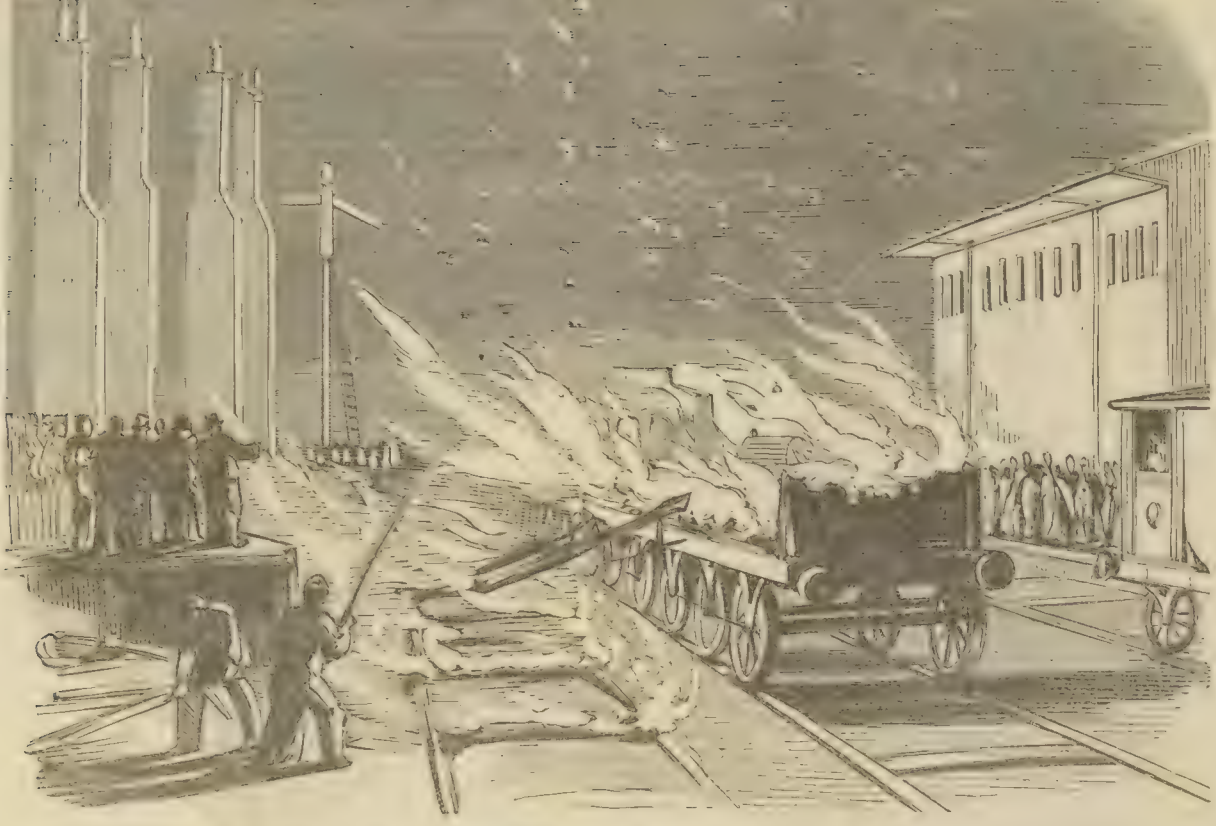
Agatha.—"Well, this Hampstead's a charming place! To dance all night at the Wells, and be treated at Mother Huld's; to have presents made one at the raffish shops, and then take a walk in Cane Wood with a man of wit that's not over rude—but to be five or six miles from one's husband. Marriage were, indeed, a happy state, could one be always five or six miles from one's husband."

The scenes of folly and dissipation at Hampstead attracted the notice of the Essayists of the last century, whose well-directed labours brought discredit upon the place to such an extent, that about the year 1735, its large assembly-room was converted into a chapel, and has since so continued to this time.

The celebrated Kit Cat Club, in the reign of Queen Ann, held its summer meetings at the Upper Flask Tavern, a large house, on the top of the heath, lately in the occupation of Thomas Shepherd, Esq, M.P.; and in this house, at a later period, lived and died the learned and eccentric George Stevens, who here completed his famous edition of the works of Shakespeare.

At the extreme end of the heath, in the north-east, near Cane Wood, are several beautiful trees, in the seats beneath whose shade, Pope, Gay, Arbuthnot, Steele, and the poets and wits of the period, are said to have been accustomed to wile away their leisure hours. Lord Erskine desired to cut down these elm trees; but being remonstrated with in a poetical epistle, in which he was reminded that they had been the favourite resort of the Muses, and that their number was nine, he abandoned his intention. Opposite to the nine elms now spoken of, is a white house, for many years the favourite retirement of Thomas Lord Erskine, who, having bestowed much expense and pains in enlarging and adorning it, and in laying out its grounds, bestowed upon the place the name of Evergreen-hill. In the same house lived also, for many years, a kindred spirit and a learned and upright Judge, the late Chief Justice Tindal. In the valley below the noble walk across the heath, is the Vale of Health, which

(Continued on page 200.)



GREAT FIRE AT THE SOUTHERN AND WESTERN RAILWAY STATION, CORK.

On Tuesday morning, a destructive fire broke out in the Cork terminus of the Great Southern and Western Railway. The permanent buildings, the engine and traffic department, were at one time in considerable danger, and would have been very seriously injured were it not for the exertions of the company's officers, who were at the place a few moments after the fire made its appearance. The

station-house, comprising the booking-office, the waiting-rooms, the porters' room, the master's office, and the lamp-room, were burned to the ground before any effective assistance arrived. The amount of damage is not known as yet, but none of the goods which had been sent in during the day for transmission were injured. The premises are reduced to the four chimney-shafts shown in the accompanying sketch.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

We understand that arrangements are in contemplation for the appointment of Lieut-General Sir William Gomm, K.C.B., to the situation of Commander-in-Chief at Bombay, vice Sir Willoughby Cotton, G.C.B., who is expected to give up his command in the course of the ensuing autumn.

STATIONS OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIPS.—The squadron under Commodore Martin were at Gibraltar on the 8th inst., to sail shortly for Lisbon, consisting of the *Prince Regent*, *Indefatigable*, *Thetis*, *Leander*, *Terrible*, *Hogue*, *Encounter*, *Arrogant*, and *Janus* steam-slo. p.

NAVAL CADETS.—The total number of cadets admitted into the royal navy during the year 1849 was 96. The select committee on the army and navy estimates recommended that the number admitted within a year should not exceed 100.

THE SLAVE-TRADE.—The total number of deaths which took place amongst the officers and crews of her Majesty's ships employed in the slave-trade on the coast of Africa, from 1840 to 1848 inclusive, was 638. The mortality per cent. varied during that period from 2.1 to 7.9 per cent. The number of slave-vessels captured within the nine years was 625, of which 578 were condemned. The total number of slaves captured was 38,033. Of these, 3192 were taken in 1840; 4519 in 1841; 3177 in 1842; 3612 in 1843; in 1844, 3472; in 1845, 4443; in 1846, 2200; in 1847, 4706; and in 1848, 6712. The number of deaths which occurred among the slaves between capture and adjudication was 3941.

EMIGRATION FROM PLYMOUTH IN 1849.—The number of emigrants from Plymouth during 1849 was as follows:—To Port Adelaide, 127 cabin and 3553 steerage passengers; Port Philip, 125 and 4886; Sydney, 130 and 5193; Port Stephens, 2 and 2; Van Diemen's Land, 6 and 124; Canada, 39 and 1132; United States, 0 and 101; Cape of Good Hope, 6 and 338; Port Natal, 16 and 83; San Francisco, 15 and 47; making a total of 15,855. The number of ships was:—To the Australian colonies, 109; Canada, 10; Cape of Good Hope, 5; Port Natal, 3; United States, 2; San Francisco, 1; making a total of 130. In 1847 there were 26 ships and 1230 passengers; in 1848, 88 ships and 8508 passengers.

A CALIFORNIAN ROMANCE.—The *American Citizen* (Philadelphia) states that a party from Maine, now in California, found near the Sacramento, and almost thirty miles from any other digging, two intelligent and beautiful young ladies, with no attendant except an old grey-headed negro, whom they had enticed to accompany them, and who is the servant of the father of one of them. The eldest of these girls was not twenty. It seems their imaginations had become excited by the gold stories which they had heard, and they had determined to try their hands at making a fortune. The old negro was past work, and was left in the camp during the day to look after the household affairs, and keep watch, while the girls pursued their mining operations. When the party reached the camp, the "old dandy" was alone in it, but the girls came in during the day, and received their visitors hospitably. They expressed no fear of being molested or robbed, and said that they should leave for home when they had accumulated 10,000 dollars; they had already gathered 7000. They were from Florida, and the youngest ran away from school to enter upon the expedition.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

At the meeting of the Directors of the Bank of England to "consider of a dividend," the profits of the half-year were returned as having been greater by £16,106; than at the last meeting, when a dividend of 3½ per cent. was declared. A dividend of 4 per cent. for the half-year, free of Income-tax, was in consequence a need to; after payment of which the rest will amount to £3,001,312.

The prevailing tone of the market during the past week has been dullness, with a tendency to recede, and this may be greatly ascribed to the Budget. It is considered that a handsome surplus has been frittered away, and every one asks who is to gain by taking the duty off bricks. In the cost of a poor man's dwelling, not thirty shillings will be saved, and to the middling classes as well as the labouring poor, no reduction of rent can possibly arise from it. Neither does the alteration in the stamp duties meet with more approbation. It was consequently anticipated that at least one million would be devoted to the reduction of the national debt; consequently, although Consols opened on Monday at an advance of about ½ p. upon Saturday's closing quotation, a decline to 95½ rapidly succeeded. By a slight reaction the closing quotation was 95½ ½. An improved tone at the opening on Tuesday raised the quotation to 95½, but a large sale towards the close of business caused a decline to 95½ ½. The division in the House of Commons on Tuesday night being favourable to Ministers, this price was maintained on Wednesday. Absence of business was the marked feature of the Market on Thursday, Consols quoting 95½ during the day, with the exception of a brief interval, when the price advanced to 95½. Reduced New Three and a Quarter per Cents, Bank Stock, and India Stock, are closed. Exchange Bills have advanced a few shillings, notwithstanding an improved demand for money in the discount market. At the close of the week prices were heavy, quoting:—For Consols, 95½; Three per Cent. Annuities, 175½, 95; India Bonds, £1000, 87 p.; Consols for Account, 95½; India Stock for Account, 266; Exchange Bills, £1000, June, 63 p.; £500, June, 63 p.; Small, June, 63 p.

There has been some animation in the Foreign Market during the week, Peruvian having recovered the depression of Monday, and Buenos Ayres Stock fluctuating four per cent. Mexican has also improved in consequence of the remaining portion of the loan of £2,000,000 sterling is in the market, and the scrip is already at 2 p.m. The loan is taken at 90, and the first day of payment will be the 22nd of April. Chillan Stock is firm, the dividends on the Six per Cent. and Three per Cent. Stock, due the 31st instant, being both advertised by Baring Brothers and Company. Although at the close of the week business was not very brisk, prices closed as follows:—Brazilian Bonds, 89½; Ditto, Account, 90; Ditto, Small, 89½; Buenos Ayres Bonds, 6 per Cent., Account, 61½; Chillan Bonds, 8 per Cent., 60; Danish, Scrip,

2½ p.; Grenada Bonds, Deferred, 3½; Mexican, 5 per Cent., 1846, Jan. Coupons, Account, 29½; Peruvian Bonds, 4 per Cent., 73½; Ditto, Deferred, 27½; Portuguese, 4 per Cent., 33; Russian Bonds, 107; Ditto, Scrip, 1½ p.; Spanish 5 per Cent., 1840, Account, 16½; Ditto, 3 per Cent., 35½; Venezuela Bonds, 2½ per Cent., 32; Ditto, Deferred, 12; Dutch 2½ per Cent., 55½; Ditto, 4 per Cent., Certificates, 86½.

Shares are again heavy, prices in many instances declining, as the annexed list will show:—Aberdeen, 11½; Caledonian, 10½; Ditto, New, £10, Preference, 6½; Chester and Holyhead, 9; Ditto, Preference, 8; Eastern Counties, 7½; Ditto, New, Preference, 6 per Cent., 11½; Ditto, ditto, No. 2, 8½ premium; East Lincolnshire, Guaranteed, 6 per Cent., 27½; Great Northern, 7½; Ditto, A, Deferred, 2½; Ditto, 5 per Cent., Preference, 10½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 27½; Great North of England, 220; Great Western, 57½; Ditto, Fifth, 11; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 37½ x d; Ditto ditto, 37; Ditto, Fifth, 1 x d; Ditto, New, Guaranteed Six per Cent., 12½; Leeds and Thirsk, 7½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 80; London and North-Western, 104½; London and South-Western, 63; Ditto, New, £50, 23; Ditto, New, £40, 19; Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock, 6½; Midland, 39; Norfolk, 28½; North British, 8½; Ditto, Quarters, 2½; Ditto, Third, 3; North Staffordshire, 6½; Reading, Guildford, and Reigate, 16½; Scottish Central, 12½; Shrewsbury and Birmingham, 9½; Do., Class B, 8½; Do., New, Gu., 8 x 1; South-Eastern, 16½ x d; Ditto, No. 3, 15½; Ditto, Registered, No. 4, 5; South Wales, 21; Wear Valley, 6 per Cent., Guaranteed, 25½; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 13½ x d; Ditto, Newcastle Extension, 8½ x d; Ditto, G. N. E. Preference, 8½; York and North Lincolnshire, 16½ x d; Ditto, Preference, 6½; Boulogne and Amiens, 6½; Luxembourg, 2½; Northern of France, 12½; Rouen and Havre, 9; Tours and Nantes, 2½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE.—During the week the arrivals of English wheat up to our market coast-wise as well as by land carriage and sample, have been small. On the whole, the demand for all kinds has ruled steady, at fully previous rates, and at which good clearances have been effected. Fine foreign wheats have changed hands to a fair extent, at full prices. In the middling and inferior qualities only a limited business has been transacted. Barley has sold to a moderate extent, at about previous rates. Malt has sold heavily, but we have no further decline to notice in value. Rather more doing in oats; but beans, peas, and flour have ruled dull in the extreme.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 38s to 42s; ditto, white, 40s to 42s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 37s to 40s; ditto, white, 41s to 44s; rye, 22s to 23s; grinding barley, 18s to 21s; distilling ditto, 22s to 24s; malted ditto, 24s to 27s; Norfolk and Lincoln malt, 52s to 55s; brown ditto, 46s to 51s; Kingston and Ware, 54s to 56s; Chevalier, 56s to 57s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 14s to 16s; potato ditto, 17s to 20s; Moughal and Cork, black, 13s to 15s; ditto, white, 11s to 16s; tick beans, new, 23s to 28s; ditto, old, 26s to 28s; grey peas, 23s to 25s; mangel, 25s to 26s; white, 22s to 24s; boilers, 24s to 26s, per quarter. Town-made flour, 32s to 36s; Suffolk, 27s to 31s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 27s to 31s, per 280 lbs. Foreign:—Danzig red wheat, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; barley, —s to —s; oats, —s to —s; beans, —s to —s; peas, —s to —s; per quarter. Flour, American, 20s to 23s per barrel; Baltic 20s to 23s per barrel; French, 27s to 32s per 280 lb.

The Seed Market.—Clover seed, both English and foreign, is in moderate request, at full prices. Canary rather low to purchase. Rape-seed is selling at improved rates. Linseed, English, sowing, 42s to 50s; Baltic, crushing, 40s to 42s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 38s to 41s; hompeed, 38s to 39s per quarter; coriander, 16s to 25s per cwt.; brown mustard seed, 35s to 11s; white do, 6s 6d to 9s 6d; tares, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per bushel. English rapeseed, new, 43s to 43s per 100; rapeseed cakes, 44s to 44s 5s per ton; canary, 72s to 74s per quarter. English clover-seed, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, up to —s. Foreign, red, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s; white, —s to —s; extra, —s to —s.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6d to 7d; of household ditto, 4d to 5d per 4 lb loaf.

Duties on Foreign Corn.—Wheat, 1s 0d; barley, 1s 0d; oats, 1s 0d; rye, 1s 0d; beans, 1s 0d; peas, 1s 0d. At public sale 9045 packages have been offered since our last report; 2200 changed hands, at a decline in the value of scented parcels, as well as gunpowders, of ½d to 1d per lb. By private contract very little business is doing, and prices are with difficulty supported. Common sound congo, 9½d to 10d per lb.

Sugar.—Although prices are rather more firmness in the demand for raw sugars, no improvement can be noticed in value. Refined goods move off slowly; brown lump, at 46s; and good to fair grocery, 48s 6d to 49s 6d per cwt.

Coffee.—Native Ceylon qualities have fallen considerably, the last price paid for good ordinary being 48s per cwt.—with a decline of 20s per cwt from the highest point. Most other kinds of coffee are very slow in sale.

Rice.—This article is dull, and late rates are barely supported. The stocks on hand are but meagre.

Provisions.—The supplies of foreign butter being still on the increase, the demand for all kinds is heavy, at further depressed rates. Fine new Friesland may now be purchased at 90s to 91s; fine Zwolle, 80s to 81s; fine Holstein and Kiel, 84s to 92s; and inferior and surplus, 50s per cwt. Irish butter is very dull, and is per cwt. lower, although the stock is much reduced. Carlsberg, first, landed, 7½s to 8½s; Clonmel and Kilkenny, 7½s to 78s; Cork, 76s to 78s; and Limerick, 6½s to 70s per cwt. For forward delivery, very little is doing. English butter moves off slowly, at drooping rates. Fine new milk Dorset, 98s to 102s per cwt. Stale and old parcels are almost nominal. Fresh is quoted at 88s to 10s per dozen lbs. Fine new Irish bacon is in fair request, at full prices. In other qualities exceedingly little is doing. Waterford, sizeable, landed, 46s to 47s; heavy, 43s to 45s; and small Limerick, 43s to 44s per cwt. A few parcels of Waterford, for present bipment, have changed hands at 47s per cwt. on board. Prime Hamburg bacon 48s to 42s per cwt. All other kinds of provisions are a slow inquiry.

Tallow.—Our market is heavy, and prices have given way fully 3d per cwt. P.Y.C. on the spot, 24s 6d to 27s 3d; and for delivery of new up to the end of the year, 38s per cwt. Tallow, 37s per cwt. net cash.

Oils.—Generally speaking, the demand is steady, and prices are fairly supported. Spirits.—Brandy, though in moderate request, is held at full prices. In rum and corn spirits comparatively little is doing. The latter are selling at 9s 8d per gallon net cash.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, 22s to 23s 10s; clover ditto, 23s to 24s 10s; and straw, 11s to 12s 10s per load.

Coals.—Carr's Hartley, 15s; Tansfield Moor, 14s; Bewick and Co, 16s; Braddell, 17s; Hilton, 17s 6d; Stewart's, 17s 3d per ton.

Hops.—Our market is in a very dull state. In prices we have no change to notice.

Wool.—The imports continue on a very moderate scale. By private contract a steady business is doing, and prices are well supported.

Polates.—The supplies being unusually large for the time of year, the trade is heavy, at a further decline in the quotations of from 5s to 10s per ton. Present rates vary from 40s to 100s per ton. The imports from the Continent continue very extensive.

Smithfield.—For sheep the demand has ruled tolerably steady, at full prices. In other kinds of fat stock, comparatively little doing.

Beef, from 2s 6d to 3s 6d; mutton, 3s 6d to 4s 4d; lamb, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; veal, 3s 6d to 4s 6d; and pork, 2s 10d to 4s 6d per 8 lb, by the carcase.

ROBERT HENBEST.



BRITISH INSTITUTION EXHIBITION.—"THE FIRST IMPRESSION."—PAINTED BY H. SELOUS.

WATER-CARRIERS AT HAMPSTEAD IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

(Continued from page 198.)

at one time was also a favourite abode of the Muses: Lord Byron lived in the Vale of Health, as did also Thomas Moore, Leigh Hunt, and Shelley; and here also poor Keats wandered about in search of health. Dr. Johnson is said to have composed his poem, the "Vanity of Human Wishes," in lodgings taken for the benefit of his wife's health at Froggall. Armstrong, the author of the "Art of Health," also lived with his brother in Hampstead, and has sung of it as "Hampstead courted by the western wind."

degree to make amends for this ingratitude: monuments have been raised to his memory, and pictures painted and engraved to celebrate his genius. Yet to be treated with respect after death is but a poor recompense for being neglected and persecuted during life.

Our second Engraving is from one of Mr. Branwhite's "frost" pictures: it is entitled "The Frozen Mill," and shows us an ice-bound wheel and stream, the bare-boughed trees and distant country relieved with mantlings of snow, and forming altogether a very striking scene, which the artist has admirably painted.



WATER-CARRIER AT HAMPSTEAD.

The Londoners still crowd to Hampstead in the summer time; and here, forgetting the toils, and cares, and strife of business, may be seen men, women, and children, with light and merry hearts, some seated in groups on the grassy slopes, others running and jumping and enjoying the gambols of country life. Others, again, find diversion and exercise upon the numerous dock-ways, which are always in waiting in front of Jack Straw's Castle. The easy distance of Hampstead from London, within a sixpenny ride from the Bank, renders it an accessible as well as delightful resort of the Londoners.

FINE ARTS.—EXHIBITION OF THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

We have this week engraved one of Mr. Selous's contributions to the collection, which he terms, in the catalogue, "The First Impression," and appends these words:—"Gutenberg shewing to his wife his first experiment in printing from moveable types; supposed to have been the Bible, printed in 1450-60." The picture measures 4 feet 8 inches in height by 6 feet 1 inch in width, and hangs in the South Room. The subject is an extremely interesting one; yet this commemoration prompts painful reflection. Gutenberg, it will be recollected, experienced the hard fate that all great inventors have had to endure from the misconceptions and ingratitude of mankind. Posterity has endeavoured in some



BRITISH INSTITUTION EXHIBITION.—"THE FROZEN MILL."—PAINTED BY C. BRANWHITE.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS SUPPLEMENT.

SUPPLEMENT TO No. 418.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1850.

[GRATIS.]

LITERATURE.

ANTONINA; OR, THE FALL OF ROME: A ROMANCE OF THE FIFTH CENTURY. By Mr. Wilkie Collins, Author of the life of William Collins, R.A. In 3 Vols. London: R. Bentley.

The subject chosen by Mr. Collins for his adventurous essay into the regions of Romance, is an ambitious one; it would task the highest powers to do it justice: but though full of difficulties, it is also full of opportunities. Alaric the Goth and Honorius the Emperor of Rome are two characters provided by history, around whose fortunes might be grouped the details of one of the most stupendous tragedies upon record. The period, the manners, the sentiments, the gigantesque proportions of the actors in the scene, the pomp, the grandeur, the terror, and the sublimity of the events that lead, in due succession, to the catastrophe, all offer the most tempting materials to the daring and self-confident writer of fiction. Alaric, or Allreich, himself, who stands in such bold relief on the page of history, is a character of which a man of genius might make anything he pleased. "Instead of attempting," says Gibbon, "the hopeless siege of Ravenna, the prudent leader of the Goths proceeded to Rimini, stretched his ravages along the sea-coast of the Adriatic, and meditated the conquest of the ancient mistress of the world. An Italian hermit, whose zeal and sanctity were respected by the barbarians themselves, encountered the victorious Monarch, and boldly denounced the indignation of Heaven against the oppressors of the earth; but the Saint himself was confounded by the solemn asseverations of Alaric, that he felt a secret and preternatural impulse which directed and even compelled his march to the gates of Rome. He felt that his genius and his fortune were equal to the most arduous enterprizes; and the enthusiasm which he communicated to the Goths insensibly removed the popular and almost superstitious reverence of the nations for the majesty of the Roman name!" To fill up this sketch adequately, and to group around it all the minor characters and events—the love, the passion, and the sufferings of individuals, which give the human interest to tragedy and romance, would be a task worthy of the highest dramatic genius. Nor is the character of Honorius a less inviting one: the contrast presented by the luxurious, half-witted, frivolous, and doomed Emperor of Rome, to the simple, intelligent, severe, and victorious king of the Goths, might be made highly interesting, effective, and powerful. Mr. Collins seems to have been fully aware of the grandeur of the subject, but to have doubted his own powers to do it full justice. He says in his preface:—

It will be observed that the only two historical personages introduced in the following pages (the Emperor Honorius and Alaric) appear as characters of secondary importance, as regards the conduct of the story. Upon consideration of the principle on which he should write, the author doubted the propriety (in his case, at least) of selecting heroes and heroines from the real personages of the period. He feared, on this plan, that, while he was necessarily adding from invention to what was actually known, his fiction might be placed in unfavourable contrast with truth, and that he might be able to carry out his story, written upon such a system, without confusing or falsifying dates; thus falling in one main object of his anxiety viz. to make his plot invariably arise; and proceed out of the great historical events of the era exactly in the order in which they occurred.

Under these circumstances, he thought that by forming all his principal characters from imagination, he should be able to mould them as he pleased to the main necessities of the story; to display them, without any impropriety, as influenced in whatever manner appeared most strikingly interesting by his minor incidents; and, further, to make them on all occasions, without trammel or hindrance, the practical exponents of the spirit of the age; of all the various historical illustrations of the period which the author's researches among conflicting, but equally important authorities, had enabled him to garner up. While, at the same time, the appearance of verisimilitude, necessary to an historical romance, might, he imagined, be successfully preserved by the occasional introduction of the living characters of the period, in those portions of the plot comprising events with which they had been remarkably connected.

Although the Romance produced, in accordance with this plan, is an interesting one, reflecting much credit upon the talents of Mr. Collins, we must say, that it fails to satisfy us of the propriety of his choosing such a subject. In the present development of his powers he has fallen short of its full development; he has excited hopes which he has not been able to gratify, and impressed us with a far stronger idea of his ambition as a writer, than of his maturity of judgment and his brilliancy of invention. He has not faith in himself, and he will not allow his readers to have any faith in his story. He continually reminds them, without the slightest necessity, that he is writing a fiction, and that they are not to believe it to be true; and thrusts upon their attention, remarks which throw them, as it were, off the rail, and destroy the whole illusion, which it should be the first object of a romancist who knows his business to preserve and foster. Such passages as the following will show the faults we mean: "To satisfy the exigencies attaching to the conduct of this story, it is requisite to quit the lounging places of the plebeians in the streets for the couches of the Emperor's palace." And again: "Ere, however, we revert to former actors, or proceed to new characters, it will be requisite to people the streets that we here attempt to revive. By this process it is hoped that the reader will gain that familiarity with the manners and customs of the Romans of the fifth century, on which the influence of this story mainly depends." Again: "In the meantime our revelations are now at an end, and the reader's attention is released to the conduct of the story; but, before we once more address ourselves to its requirements, we would again ask those interested in penetrating the internal causes of the catastrophe of Rome, to meditate for an instant on the particles of evidence which we have here collected for them." "Let them figure to themselves this, and they will be little disposed to cavil at the probability of the scenes through which they may be led in the future portions of this work." We could cite dozens of similar instances. All these remarks are singularly inartistic and undramatic; they destroy the charm of the fiction, which, for the time being, the reader should imagine to be true, and which, if he is at all disposed to be pleased with the writer, or with the story he tells, he resents at last as positively offensive. These, however, are the faults of inexperience, as are, also, the occasional indications of a confusion of ideas, and the proofs of turgidity of style, in which the writer indulges. We do not, however, feel ourselves called upon to dwell at any further length upon these little matters. There is sufficient evidence in the volumes before us, to show that Mr. Collins has ability to produce far better things. He has considerable dramatic power, and only lacks faith in his readers to make a more perfect use of it. He also possesses tenderness and passion, and a sense of beauty and sublimity in art and nature, which, in due time, if he should cultivate romance writing, will enable him to acquire distinction. As a specimen of the style and treatment in the better parts of the volume, we select the following:—

No brightness gleamed from their armour; no banners waved over their heads; no music sounded among their ranks. Backed by the dreary wood, which still disgorged unceasing additions to the warlike multitudes already encamped; surrounded by the desolate crags, which showed dim, wild, and majestic through the darkness of the gloomy mist; covered by the dusky clouds which overed motionless over the barren mountain-tops, and poured their stormy waters on the uncultivated plains: all that the appearance of the Goths had of leniency in itself, was in awful harmony with the cold and mournful aspect that the face of nature had assumed. Silent—menacing—dark, the army looked the embodiment of hostile determination; the preparation for the subjugation of Rome. Conducting Gaiswintha quickly through the most files of warriors, her gaze, using a gap of ground, she dashed up towards the right angles with the main ad from the woods, desired her to dismount, and, pointing to the group that

occupied the place, said, "Yonder is Alaric the king; and with him is Hermanric thy brother."

At whatever point of view it could have been regarded, the assembly of persons thus indicated to Gaiswintha must have arrested inattention itself. Near a confused mass of weapons scattered on the ground reclined a group of warriors, apparently listening to the low, muttered conversation of three men of great age, who rose above them, seated on pieces of rock, and whose long white hair, rough skin dresses, and lean tottering forms appeared in strong contrast with the iron-clad and gigantic figures of their auditors beneath. Above the old men on the high-road was one of Alaric's waggons; and on the heaps of baggage piled against its clumsy wheels, had been chosen the resting-place of the future conqueror of Rome. The top of the vehicle seemed absolutely teeming with a living burden. Perched in every available nook and corner, were women and children of all ages, and weapons and live stock of all varieties. Now a child, lively, mischievous, inquisitive, peered forth over the head of a battering-ram. Now a lean, hungry sheep advanced his inquiring nostrils sadly to the open air, and displayed by the movement the head of a withered old woman, pillowed on his woolly flanks. Here appeared a young girl, struggling, half entombed in shields. There gaped an emaciated camp-follower, nearly suffocated in heaps of furs. The whole scene, with its back ground of great woods, drenched in a vapour of misty rain, with its striking contrasts at one point, and its solemn harmonies at another, presented a vast combination of objects that either startled or awed—a gloomy conjunction of the menacing and the sublime.

Bidding Gaiswintha wait near the waggon, one of her conductors approached and motioned aside a young man standing near the king. As the warrior rose to obey the demand, he displayed, with all the physical advantages of his race, an ease and elasticity of movement unusual among the men of his nation. At the instant when he joined the soldier who had accosted him, his face was partially concealed by an immense helmet, crowned with a boar's head, the mouth of which, forced open at death, gaped wide as if still raving for prey. But the man had scarcely stated his errand, when he started violently, removed the grim appendage of war, and hastened bare-headed to the side of the waggon where Gaiswintha awaited his approach.

The instant he was beheld by the woman, she hastened to meet him, placed the wounded child in his arms, and greeted him with these words:—

"Your brother served in the armies of Rome, when our people were at peace with the Empire. Of his household and his possessions, this is all that the Romans have left."

She ceased, and for an instant the brother and sister regarded each other in touching and expressive silence. The face and manner of the young man (he had numbered only twenty years) expressed a deep sorrow, mainly in its stern tranquility, sincere in its perfect innocence of display. As he looked on the child, his blue eyes, bright, piercing, and lively, softened like a woman's: his lips, hardly hidden by his short beard, closed and quivered, and his chest heaved under the armour that lay upon its noble proportions. There was in this simple, speechless, tearless, melancholy—this exquisite consideration of triumphant strength for suffering weakness, something almost sublime; opposed as it was to the emotions of malignity and despair that appeared in Gaiswintha's features. The ferocity that gleamed from her dilated, glaring eyes; the sinister markings that appeared round her pale lips, the swelling of the large veins on her lofty forehead, so distorted her countenance, that the brother and sister, as they stood together, seemed in expression to have changed sexes for the moment. From the warrior came pity for the sufferer—from the mother, indignation for the offence.

The heroine Antonina is a singularly beautiful and well-drawn character. Vetrano the senator, the rich, luxurious, and apparently heartless debauchee, who disbelieves in human goodness, but who finds that he has a heart to be stirred in his unfathomable depths by love and sorrow, is also exceedingly well portrayed. The various incidents in the fearful siege of Rome show power and invention; and the whole romance, notwithstanding the faults of treatment and of style, which we have pointed out, not for the discouragement, but for the warning of an ambitious but somewhat inexperienced novelist, is of sufficient beauty to justify the expectation, that at some future day the world will be debtor to Mr. Collins for a far superior work.

WOMAN IN FRANCE DURING THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY. By JULIA KAVANAGH. Two Vols., with Portraits. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

No series of events in modern times have excited such universal interest as the Revolutions in France. For seventy years that country has been in a state of continual disturbance, and appears as little likely at present to settle into quietness and order as at any moment since the commencement of the period. It has not only been disturbed itself—it has been the source of disturbance to all Europe. To beat back and keep back the irruptions of its armies and its ideas, has been the great business of the ruling classes—the statesmen and clergy—of other countries. Even at this moment, its ideas are everywhere generating either the excitement of hope or the feeling of alarm. In France, so intensely interesting, the women have long played a conspicuous part; and some of them, as Madame D'uevant, are at this moment, as in the olden time, the foremost in the national ranks. Whatever might be the objects aimed at—the most frivolous pleasures, the mightiest of political changes—they have taken a lead. "The individual," said Montesquieu, speaking of France a century ago, "who should attempt to judge of the Government by the men at the head of affairs, and not by the women who sway those men, would fall into the same error as he who judges of a machine by its outward action, and not by its secret springs." We may doubt the wisdom of giving such a preponderance to the sex; we may even suspect that some of the violent changes to which France has been subjected may have arisen from their very lively temperament, but that only makes the subject more important and instructive.

At all times the history of woman—the half of the human race, the mothers and sisters of men—and of their peculiar influence and vocations different from those of men—is of great importance. They are as powerful for good or for evil in the quietness of their domestic lives—in moulding the hearts and minds, the thoughts and characters, of their children and relatives—as in courts and cabinets, where they interfere directly with national affairs. Of woman in France, who reigns in the boudoir, presides in the shop, and cultivates the farm, the history is peculiarly interesting; and all nature might be searched in vain for a theme more attractive. It augurs well of a work that the authoress has shown skill in selecting its subject. It is another favourable indication that the authoress is obviously fitted by nature for the task. Of woman, who should write but woman, who alone can comprehend her feelings? Passions, sentiments, motives, views, are as different in the sexes as their organisations are different; and it is probably more easy for a civilised man to comprehend a savage, than for a man or woman fully to comprehend the feelings of the other sex. As Tennyson says—

—woman is not undeveloped man,
But diverse.
Self-reverent each and reverencing each
Distinct in individualities.

The theme, then, selected by Miss Kavanagh is a most interesting one, and, for a lady, a most suitable one. We have nothing to object to her volumes but that they are not more extensive. She has acted, as of necessity, on a principle of selection, and could only take a small part. The selection, however, is good, the descriptions excellent; still, the work is insufficient. It does not give us the whole, nor even nearly enough, of the important and delightful subject. The defect is remediable, and we trust that Miss Kavanagh, who has generally found the encouragement she deserves, will work the mine till she has exhausted nearly all its treasure. The public appetite will be only whetted by the present volumes, and will not be satisfied till it has received, in a little more condensed form, and in a little more easy and more familiar style, purified as the present volumes are of all indelicacies, a complete and pointed history of the leading women of France, every one of the persons indicated by Miss Kavanagh must be fully described; many, too, that are

not mentioned, because it is supposed they are generally known must be incorporated with the work, and the subject which has been so well begun, must be completed. It may require, perhaps, almost the labour of a life, but on what can it be better bestowed? Miss Kavanagh would be at once the most instructive and attractive of authoresses.

The work, in an introductory chapter, full of sensible remarks, makes the public acquainted with the state of French society at the close of the reign of Louis XIV. It then gives us a sketch of the Court of the Regent and of some of the ladies of the period. The reign of Louis XV., his mistresses, and most of the influential women of the period, and the men they associated with or used for their purposes, follow. The prominent literary characteristics of the age are not overlooked. Afterwards we have the reign of Louis XVI. and the whole history of Marie Antoinette, and most of the celebrated women of the day. Finally, we have the first revolution, when woman was the victim of much brutality, and triumphed more in her sufferings by the display of heroic virtues than ever she triumphed in the blaze of Court splendour and in the exercise of imperial power. Many of the persons referred to and the scenes described are already well known; but some of them, as Madame Roland and Charlotte Corday, have never been so well described in our language as by Miss Kavanagh. Nor has this part of French biography ever been so neatly and concisely brought before the English public. To understand the origin of the first French revolution, the state of society immediately anterior to that period must be known; and we take, therefore, for our first extract, a passage directly bearing on that point. The prostitution both of political power and religion is exemplified by the proceedings of Madame de Berri, one of the daughters of the Regent, the Duke of Orleans. The passage may be quoted as a test of the character of the ruling classes:—

Madame de Berri, who had been married at an early age to Louis the Fourteenth's youngest grandson, was a handsome, but violent and sensual woman. Her abandoned profligacy recalled that of those dissolute Princesses who filled Rome with the scandal of their excesses, towards the decline of the Empire. Her inordinate ambition had induced her to lay those inclinations under control until her marriage was over; but, two days after the ceremony, she was brought home intoxicated from a supper at court. Her intemperance and profligacy henceforth became notorious. Her husband, who was, at first, passionately attached to her, soon grew disgusted with her conduct. This feeling was increased by the impetuosity she affected in her conversations with her father, who had brought her up in his Atheistical principles. So reckless did Madame de Berri become, that she seriously insisted on flying from the kingdom, with her lover, La Haye. The danger, however, terrified him; he revealed everything to her father, who, with much difficulty, made her give up this wild plan. The early death of her husband, by giving her more freedom, increased her license; and the accession of the Regent to power, removed the slight restraint imposed upon her by Louis the Fourteenth and Madame de Maintenon.

Her arrogance, which had always been great, henceforth became excessive. Madame de Berri soon assumed the style of a Sovereign Princess; she gave orders of banishment, crossed Paris to the warlike sound of trumpets, and received foreign ambassadors, enthroned in state under a canopy. Even whilst degrading herself by every vice, she exacted the deepest outward homage, and learned with indignation that her Princely rank could not excuse her from the contempt due to her profligacy.

Notwithstanding her Atheism and licentiousness, Madame de Berri had sudden fits of terror and devotion, which led her to retire occasionally to a convent of Carmelites. The whole sisterhood were then edified by the fervour she displayed, and some of the simple-minded nuns deplored in her presence the malice of those who calumniated so pious a Princess. Madame de Berri laughed to hear them speak thus; and, after a few days spent in austerity, returned to her former mode of life. Her chief lover was Riom, a nobleman of high birth, but whose brutality and revolting appearance showed the depravity of this unhappy woman's taste. Her love for him resembled infatuation, and increased with his harshness and tyranny. Riom only followed in this the lessons of his uncle Lauzun, the same who was secretly married to Mademoiselle de Montpensier; and who averred that the Bourbons required to be led with a high hand. Madame de Berri soon became the slave of her lover, who loaded her with public insults, and made her receive into her intimacy his obscure or degraded companions, though, according to the laws of etiquette, no man, unless he were a Prince of the blood, would be admitted at her table. The Regent, indignant, not so much at his daughter's immorality as at the power assumed by Riom, often threatened to chastise his insolence; but Madame de Berri, who exercised over her father that ascendancy which her lover possessed over her, became so violent and irritated, that the Duke was glad to ask for his forgiveness. The scandal caused by this intrigue increased, when it was known that the Princess had given birth to a child in the Palace of the Luxembourg. As she was dangerously ill, the Curé of Saint Sulpice offered her the rites of the church. She accepted; but when he came, and made it a condition that Riom and her confidante, Madame de Mouchy, should both leave the palace, she refused indignantly. The Regent interfered; but could not induce either his daughter or the priest to relent. When he appealed to the Cardinal de Noailles, the austere prelate approved of the conduct of the Curé, and ordered him not to leave the chamber door of the Princess, lest some more complaisant priest should administer to her privately. The Curé obeyed; and, whenever he was compelled to abandon his post, he caused another clergyman to replace him. When Madame de Berri was declared out of danger, he retired, but not till then. This conduct, which created great scandal, was, nevertheless, generally approved, as a bold and uncompromising reproof administered to the corruption of the age.

Madame de Berri vainly sought to lessen the effect of this disgraceful affair by devoting herself and the whole household to the Virgin for the space of six months; during which time they appeared clad in white from head to foot, to the great amusement of the Parisians.

That is a specimen of the profligacy of the members of the Royal Family, and of the general manner in which religion was at once mocked at and made subservient to licentiousness. The Court of Louis XV. was more profligate—if it had a shade more decency, which is doubtful—than the Court of the Regent; and the manner in which he lived with numerous mistresses made that kind of profligacy the rule of the land. Nothing could then be done or obtained but by the influence of abandoned women; Princes of the blood and men of the highest rank sought favour from them—the dignities of the Church, and the honours of the State, were bestowed at their bidding. A most influential person of the period was an ex-nun, Madame Tencin, an intriguer, who probably revenged herself—as the women of France generally did—for the conventual austerity to which they were subjected in youth, by the profligacy of her mature age. She had several lovers, and at least one child, whom she deserted, to be brought up as a foundling, and who became, as M. d'Alembert, the most renowned mathematician of his age. Madame de Detian was another character of the same kind—a selfish intriguer, whom all the men admired. These and other similar ladies gathered round them the men of rank, the wits, the philosophers of France. Their conversation and letters were remarkable for brilliancy; and while the Monarch was given up to voluptuousness, the literature of the age was directed by selfish heartless profligacy. That the bulk of the common people were at the same time subject to intolerable oppression—were exposed to forced labour and forced taxation, from which the nobility and gentry were exempted—that they had one or more tyrants in every village, and no protector—are matters of common notoriety; and it was such oppression, joined with such profligacy, continued through a whole century, that brought on the first Revolution—sent Royalty, which had become contemptible, to the scaffold—and carried war and pillage to the château of every nobleman in France. By the example of the Court and the priesthood, sentiments of religion and morality had been swept out of the national mind, and little remained but the vilest passions, subject to no restraint. Louis XVI. and his Queen were unfortunate in coming after predecessors far more guilty than they were, and who visited in the third and fourth generation the miseries of their ancestors; but even they were not without great faults. The King neglected his duties for making locks, was ruled by

his wife, who was ruled by favourites, who plundered the State, which they indirectly governed. We quote a short passage, as a pendant to the picture of *Madame de Berri*. The State was, in fact, more openly corrupt, if the corruption was covered by a thin veil of decency:—

The lucrative favours bestowed on the Princess of Lamballe, and especially on Madame de Polignac and her friends, caused much jealousy at Court. The proud and powerful Noailles looked down with haughty displeasure on their upstart rivals. The political power which Marie Antoinette granted to the Polignacs was viewed with equal disfavour by all those who could not hope to share it. If she ruled the King, the Polignacs ruled her. Necker, in the account he subsequently gave of his second ministry, complained that the measures he proposed to the King had to be submitted to the Queen, the Princess, Madame de Polignac, her friends, and even to Marie Antoinette's *femme de chambre*, Madame Campan, before they could be carried into effect.

A monarchy thus ruled, deeply in debt, all its resources taxed to the utmost to supply the extravagance of the Court, with a people at once profoundly ignorant and discontented, could not possibly continue; and the surprise of the present generation is rather excited by the long patience of the people, and by the long duration of the monarchy, than by the late violent and complete destruction that fell on it. Miss Kavanagh has necessarily made these, and a number of similar important truths, manifest by her portraiture of "Woman in France." The lighter parts of the work are also very attractive. Here is a specimen.

The passion for sentiment and "bergerie" was indeed carried to strange lengths. The Duchess of Mazarin, a fair and florid dame, more remarkable for good temper than for tact or wit, indulged her pastoral tendencies to an extravagant degree. She once resolved to give, in the heart of winter, a *fête* that should eclipse everything of the kind yet known. She fitted up her vast saloon in a style of extraordinary splendour, with wide looking-glasses that reached from the floor to the ceiling. At the further extremity of the apartment, a wide recess, separated from it by a glass casement, was beautifully decorated with shrubs and flowers, so as to represent a lovely bower. Along a winding path, a pretty actress from the Opera, attired as a shepherdess, was to appear with dog and crook, leading a flock of snowy sheep to the sound of soft pastoral melody. The light of the lamps and the surrounding draperies had been judiciously disposed so as to heighten the effect of this little scene, with which the dancers were to be suddenly surprised at the most interesting moment of the ball. The poor Duchess of Mazarin was all impatience until that auspicious moment should arrive; but before she could give the signal that was to summon the shepherdess and her flock, a most unfortunate accident occurred. The sheep suddenly broke forth from their confinement, and burst through the glass casement into the ball-room. Panic-struck with the novel sight, and especially with the glare of innumerable lights reflected in the large mirrors, they rushed in every direction, knocked down dancers, trampled furiously over them, and attacked all the looking-glasses with desperate energy. Ladies screamed and fainted away; whilst the disconsolate Duchess of Mazarin looked on the whole scene of havoc and confusion with unutterable chagrin.

We will take another extract relating to the period just prior to the revolution. Madame de Genlis, the instructress of Louis Philippe, and the writer of several works of fiction of a moral character, was one of the most esteemed persons under the old *régime*. Miss Kavanagh gives an interesting account of her connexion with the Orleans family, which continued till her death. The following is a description of one mode of exercising her influence:—

The Duke of Orleans had been for many years connected with an actress named Marquise. This circumstance gave great annoyance to the ladies of his little court, who, unable to associate with the mistress of the Prince, were thus debarred from the *fêtes* and pleasure parties he gave at his various seats to Mdlle. Marquise. In order to obviate so serious an evil, they tacitly agreed—well-bred people never speak of such things—to give the Duke, if possible, a mistress of their own rank; a nobler born accomplished lady, who would know how to do the honours of her lover's princely entertainments, and with whom they could associate without degradation. They fixed upon the Marchioness of Montesson, a handsome widow—with whom the Prince was evidently as much in love as his phlegmatic nature would allow him to be with any one—as the person most likely to effect their prudent and moral purpose. Madame de Montesson was accordingly studiously praised to the Duke of Orleans. Her beauty, her talents, her virtues were so constantly exalted in his presence, that the weak-minded old man thought she must certainly be a paragon of perfection. She behaved with infinite tact; for, instead of throwing herself in the Duke's way, she feigned a violent and despairing passion for the Count of Guines. This nobleman was in the secret, and treated her with marked indifference. The old Duke, affected by the sorrow of the woman he loved, sought to console her. Madame de Montesson eagerly accepted his friendship, and, after heightening his passion by every art in her power, ended by declaring herself entirely cured of her unhappy love. This rather cooled the Duke of Orleans. The great disparity of rank between them made him hesitate to offer her his hand. The rigidity of the principles he had always heard her profess forbade him to think of any less honourable proposal. In this dilemma he would probably have given up Madame de Montesson altogether, if her niece had not interfered. Madame de Genlis wished to serve her aunt. She also entertained the ambitious and not unnatural desire of being connected with the Orleans family. She accordingly employed all her tact and talent to seduce the old Duke into the proposed marriage. He wavered long, but her arts finally triumphed, and in the year 1773 Madame de Montesson became the wife of one of the first Princes of the Royal blood of France.

For the events of the Revolution, when woman in France nobly redeemed her errors or patiently suffered the martyrdom they brought on her, we must refer to the book. We must stop. Miss Kavanagh treats a fascinating subject in a graphic and pleasant manner; and, though she do not tell much that is new to the diligent readers of French memoirs, her work will convey to the public a great mass of novel information.

MEMOIRS OF THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF THOMAS CHALMERS, D.D., LL.D. By his Son-in-Law, the REV. WM. HANNA, LL.D. Vol. I. Sutherland and Knox, Edinburgh.

The name of Dr. Chalmers stands so high in the estimation of the religious public, that any work associated with it is sure to command the most profound consideration. In the volume before us Dr. Chalmers is, to a considerable extent, his own biographer—a circumstance which greatly enhances its value. It is, besides, illustrated with the excellent portrait of him, taken in 1821, by Mr. Andrew Geddes, presenting him in the full maturity of manhood, such as he was at the age of forty-one, in the climax of his fame, in the vigour of his faculties. The title bears a beautiful vignette of the church at Kilmany. The earlier period of Dr. Chalmers' life is full of intellectual interest. "Although," says his biographer, "enjoying the benefit of University instruction, intellectually he was self-educated: although brought up in the bosom of a religious family, he came at length to derive his Christianity purely and solely from the sacred oracles." Dr. Chalmers had experience both of domestic (in the person of his nurse) and school tyranny. At Anstruther School he was rather an idle scholar, but nevertheless showed facility in learning. His education was backward: at twelve years old he could not write correct English, and in Latin he was signally deficient. Two sessions in St. Andrew's University failed to mend the matter much; but the next year he applied himself in earnest to mathematical studies, and began more hopeful habits of application. He had always shown strength of will, and this had at length found a proper direction. He learned to appreciate the value of geometry as a part of intellectual training.

At first starting, Chalmers found the Church of Scotland singularly insincere in its theological bias. Calvinism was unpopular with the preachers, who sought to modify the severity of its doctrines. Though self-devoted to the Church, Chalmers was deterred from the study of Christian argument by the potential infidelity of its most able teachers. At length, however, the scheme of Jonathan Edwards possessed him wholly, and he accepted the logic of it as the completest demonstration. Chalmers' earliest compositions are not marked with any degree of imaginative power. He began with a cold intellectuality, and gradually warmed as he progressed, until he became heated into eloquence and kindled into fancy. His early progress was greatly due to the debating societies formed among the students.

Dr. Chalmers commenced life as a private tutor, and as such had to endure the customary contempt of families who misappreciate the office of educator, and regard the teacher as a servant. But from this servitude he was soon released, being, while yet scarcely nineteen, admitted as a licentiate preacher, on the plea that he had manifested "rare and singular qualities;" thus anticipating, by more than two years the ordinary period of ordination. This took place on the 31st of July, in the year 1799. Chalmers' first sermon, however, was not preached until the 25th August. Chalmers' mind had yet great trials to suffer. Mirabaud's "System of Nature" had undone much that Jonathan Edwards had accomplished. He found for awhile refuge in Beattie. But the time for action had arrived, so calmate how he might. Chalmers was, on the 12th May, 1801, ordained minister of the parish of Kilmany. The door had been shut on his mathematical ambition at St. Andrew's; but he determined to re-open it, at the risk of neglecting his pastoral duties. He instituted mathematical and chemical classes of his own—at length triumphing over the malignancy of the dull and prejudiced. Science yet possessed a greater share in him than theology.

Chalmers now rightly felt that he "was formed for a life of constant and unremitting activity." An allusion which at this period he made to the science of geology, then in its infancy, merits citation:—

It is the object of geology to lay before you the present arrangement of those materials of which the earth is composed, to conjecture the various changes which may have taken place on the surface of the globe, and to pursue the history of its physical revolutions. This, you may say, is a daring enterprise; but what enterprise too daring for the intrepidity of philosophical speculation? Who can presume to restrain the flight of human curiosity?—who can control the proud and aspiring energies of the mind?—who can stop the ambitious excursions of philosophy? I know nothing more calculated to illustrate the triumphs of the human mind than to contrast its gigantic efforts in the walks of speculation with the extreme helplessness and imbecility of our physical constitution. Man is the being of yesterday; he is a flower which every blast of heaven can wither into decay; the breath of his life is a thin vapour which every wind can dissipate into nothing; his inheritance is the gloom of a silent grave, where he will sleep with the dust of his fathers. He is the poor victim of passion and of infirmity: from the feeble cry of infancy to the strenuous and independence of manhood, a thousand ill pursue him, a thousand anxieties torment his repose. He at one time labours under the hardships of poverty; at another, pines away in the infirmity of disease; at another, weeps the treachery of violated friendship; and, at another, mourns the awful desolations which death makes among friends and among families. Yet, amid this wild war of accident and misfortune, he has displayed the triumph of his energies; he has given his few peaceful moments to the labours of philosophy; he has sent abroad his penetrating eye, and caught the finest tokens of magnificence, simplicity, and order; he has enriched science with a thousand truths, and adorned the walks of literature with a thousand delicacies. There is a prejudice against the speculations of the geologist which I am anxious to remove. It has been said that they nurture infidel propensities. By referring the origin of the globe to a higher antiquity than is assigned to it by the writings of Moses, it has been said that geology undermines our faith in the inspiration of the Bible, and in all the animating prospects of immortality which it unfolds. This is a false alarm. The writings of Moses do not fix the antiquity of the globe. If they fix anything at all, it is only the antiquity of the species. It is not the interest of Christianity to repress liberty of discussion. It has nothing to fear from the attacks of infidelity. It should rather defy her approach, and stand to receive her in the proudest of attitudes—the attitude of confidence in its own strength, and animated by the remembrance of the triumphs which it has already gained in the battles of controversy. God knows we have little to fear on the side of infidelity. It is not here that we are to seek for the point of alarm. What Christianity has most to fear from, is from the encroachments of an insidious and undermining fanaticism—from its false friends—from those men who disgrace the cause by their bigotry or their enthusiasm—from those who have brought religion into contempt by throwing over it the deformity of an illiberal and contracted superstition.

Studies like these prepared the way for Chalmers' splendid discourses, in which religion and philosophy combined their forces to present the external and internal evidences of the Scriptures, and the doctrine of the plurality of worlds, in new and more attractive forms, both of argument and illustration. Such studies Chalmers prosecuted in defiance of bigotted opposition; but he was called upon to defend the employment of his leisure hours, against the presbytery of Cupar. Such defence only demonstrated the more the manliness of his eloquence, and the force of his character. He spurned at the attempt to control his private studies, as he "would at the petty insolence of a tyrant;" he rejected it "as the interference of an officious intermeddler." "To the last sigh of my heart," he exclaimed, "I will struggle for independence, and eye with proud disdain the man who presumes to invade it."

The conversion of Chalmers' mind to a more evangelic tendency is attributed to his being present at the death of his brother George—a scene which his biographer thinks must have proved to him that his own religious convictions were not yet sufficiently profound. At this period of his career Chalmers was willing enough to mix with the gay world. We find him in London, and at the theatre. Here is some criticism of his on Mrs. Siddons and John Kemble, at Covent-Garden:—

The play was "Coriolanus." The chief actors were Mrs. Siddons and Mr. Kemble. She had few opportunities of coming forward, but showed herself a great and impressive performer, and noble in the expression of heightened heroic sentiment. I was electrified at the drawing out of the dagger, "to die while Rome was free." Kemble disgusted me at first; heavy and formal in the movement of his arms, and not able to drop the staidness of his manner on trivial and unimportant occasions. He is too formal, artificial, and affected; but is more than tolerable—is great and admirable on those grand occasions when nature overpowers art, and the feelings are carried along by the strong, the vehement, and the restless.

At this period (1807) politics, also, began to engage Chalmers' attention. In that year he published his "Inquiry into the Extent and Stability of National Resources." Solicited by Dr. Brewster, he became a contributor to the "Edinburgh Encyclopedia." At his own desire he undertook the topic of "Christianity." The study of this subject had, in fact, become a need to him; and this epoch is distinguished by his biographer as the one in which Chalmers made the great effort of his life "after a pure and heavenly morality."

The nature and limit of a review like ours will not permit us to treat this part of our subject with any degree of breadth or depth. We must, in fact, soon bring our remarks to an end. The precursor to a deeper study of religion on the part of Chalmers was a severe illness, which compelled him to remain in the solitude of Kilmany, and to that concentration of attention on the great end of his profession to which his father had frequently in vain called him, from that "meagre and superficial faith," which for so long a time had satisfied the merely philosophical and scientific student. This portion of the volume before us will be intensely interesting to the religious reader. The experiences are given in Dr. Chalmers' own language, and in the form of a diary which he then kept, and which contains records of his mental and spiritual changes. He was thirty years old before his regeneration commenced. This volume takes us down to his thirty-fifth year, and is full of matter good for instruction or for reproof. It is, in all respects, well written and judiciously compiled. Its best recommendation it bears on its forehead, and nothing remains for us but to add that it realizes the expectations it is so well calculated to excite. The work is withal elegantly produced, with that liberality and taste which marks Mr. Constable's favourite publications.

MORE VERSE AND PROSE. By the CORN-LAW RHYMER. 2 Vols. Fox.

Death has removed the "Barl of Free-Trade" from the scene of trial in the hour of his triumph. It was by this name that Ebenezer Elliott loved to be known. Upon the level of "the only crimeless revolution that man has yet seen" (to use his own words), the poet of the Corn-law rhymes was proud to take his stand; from that point of prospect, "through the prosperity, wisdom, and loving-kindness" which he believed that "Free-Trade will ultimately bring," he contemplated a glorious vision of "universal peace." Mr. Elliott was eminently a Reformer. At the beginning of his career, as he tells us, he stood alone. Like Mahomet, and a few great men, whose credentials to be legislators were summed up in a single possession, namely, the possession of an idea, Mr. Elliott, at the outset of his career, found himself, in reference to the Corn-law question, in what Mr. Thomas Carlyle calls "the glorious minority of one." Our poet's agitation commenced in 1824. At that time, he states, "he could not find one respectable shopkeeper who thought the Corn-laws an evil." "The merchants," he adds, "to a man thought them beneficial. Exactly in proportion to the plunder-power exercised on his fortunes by the aristocracy, did the would-be squire idolize his destroyers." Poor Elliott had in fact "discussed the question ten years in all ways—by speech and writing, in prose and verse—before he made his "first Sheffield convert of the mercantile class"—none other than William Ibbotson, Esq., of Globe Works. "Did I not," he exclaims, "think I had done a feat? Yea, I felt it through my heart's core. But then came Feargus, and his blarney; trades-unionism fierce in its imitative glory; and Chartism, with its stone-blind selfishness; all fighting for the enemy! Wisehead, at last, was born of Empty-Pocket, in a respectable neighbourhood; and from that moment Monopoly began to tremble."

In these few words we have run over a world of the toil and trouble, of the froth and bubble of political controversy, in all of which the Corn-law Rhymers saw—finding or making—the grandest poetry. The poetical eye—"the vision and the faculty divine," as Wordsworth calls it—invents or creates poetry everywhere for its own seeing. Poetry requires no selection of topics; where her true votary is present, every thing is poetical. The commonplaces of life, like the customary rising and setting of the sun, have each a glory and a freshness; they are, in fact, only commonplace to the mind that has lost its sense of wonder: to the mind that is still sound, as in youth, the "old familiar faces" have still novelty; not a grace is wanting; their loveliness may never

fade; their beauty is undecaying, like that of the stars; and our long acquaintance with it has only added to our appreciation of its excellence. So much may we be permitted to say in reverential remembrance of the departed poet; and we think that the introductory lyric of these volumes harmonizes with the sentiment thus uttered: accordingly we quote it:—

SONG—"Ye Banks and Braes o' Donny Doon."

Oh Love! thou art a heav'n on earth,
And earth is heav'n enough for thee!
But souls must have their second birth,
And far, far hence thy home must be:
We go to join the lost and true,
Our task perform'd, our foes forgiv'n:
In wind and rain, on earth we grew,
And need not fear the calm of heav'n.

Beneath dim star, and clouded moon,
Torn hearts may blissful secrets tell:
Bright shines the ice on rocks at noon,
And hoary locks become their well.
What, though 'tis sad our way to wing
From cares that give a charm to rain,
Onr withering autumn shall be spring,
And these dry branches bud again.

The following strikes us as being highly spiritual and beautiful:—

ANN.

The broken heart, that loves in vain,
Resigns the loved one never,
But, in despair, still hopes to gain,
The lost for ever:
Then, greet the shy morn's treacherous
glow,
Thou pale autumnal blossom,
Ere chill November's sleet and snow
Beat on thy bosom!

So, Ann still loved: it was her doom
To love, in shame and sorrow:
Charles came no more! but "He will
come."
She said, "to-morrow,"
Oh, yet for her deep bliss remain'd!
She dream'd he came, and kiss'd her!
And in that hour the angels gain'd
Another sister.

In the style of Elliott there is none of the knick-nackery of the modern versifier; all is stern, earnest, genuine, manly, bold, and determined. He never shrinks from the faith that is in him, namely, "that the free exchange of blessed equivalents is the secret of all social progress;" and is always willing to render a reason for his belief. His creed is practical, real, identified with his feelings, impulses, and individuality. The aspiration contained in it has wise expression in the following stanzas:—

STEAM IN THE DESERT.

"God made all nations of one blood,"
And bade the nation-wedding flood
Bear good-for-good to men:
Lo, interchange is happiness!
The mindless are the riverless!
The shipless have no pen!

What deed sublime by them is wrought?
What type have they of speech or
thought,
What soul-enobled page?
No record tells their tale of pain!
Th' Unwritten History of Cain
Is theirs, from age to age.

Steam!—If the nations grow not old
That see broad ocean's "back of gold,"
Or hear him in the wind—
Why dost not thou thy banner shake

O'er sealess, streamless lands, and make
One nation of mankind?
If rivers are but seeking rest,
Ev'n when they climb from ocean's
breast
To plant on earth the rose;
If good for good is doubly bless'd;
Oh, lead the sever'd east and west
In action and repose!

Yes, let the wilderness rejoice,
The voiceless campaign hear the voice
Of millions long estranged;
That waste, and want, and war may
cease!
And all men know, that Love and Peace
Are—Good for Good Exchange'd.

All in Elliott was of this practical turn—for the speculative he had small liking. The subtleties and profundities of thought charmed him not. Hence we find him writing with special contempt of Goethe's "Faust." That extraordinary work seemed to him a mere verbal play, a conflict of fallacies, or a wild sport of sounding phrases, destitute of meaning. In this Elliott suffered from the defect of education; his mind had not been disciplined by philosophy; besides, he was too much of a partisan to rise to the catholic view of man and Providence required by the great German poet. Also, his tastes were thoroughly English, and he had not learned to think in foreign channels. His intellect had not been trained by system, and he thought and felt as he was prompted by his inward nature.

In a similar spirit, he has left on record his contempt for the use of hexameters in English composition. He was content with what was homely and native to the time present. He went back unwillingly to the past, and preferred the high to the distant. For the sunrise and sunset of Lamartine, however, he expresses deep sympathy—exclaiming, with almost the sublimity of *Leary*—

Though sunlike aims may darkly set,
You, eldest Heavens, are youngest yet.

How much better is this, than the scorn and the sneer dealt out to the martyr-patriot, by Thomas Carlyle, in his "Latter-day Pamphlets." The year 1848 had a different aspect for Elliott and for Carlyle, as the former's "Cycle of Revolutionary Sonnets" well proves. These sonnets are the most ambitious things in the volumes before us. One specimen, however, must suffice:—

Not die? Who saith that Nature cannot die?
Everywhere spreadeth, all things covereth
Echoless, motionless, unbounded snow.
The vagrant's footfall waketh no reply:
Star'd wretch! he panseth—Whither would he go?
He listeneth finger-lipp'd and nothing saith
Of all the thoughts that fill'd his soul with woe,
But, freezing into stiffness, lacketh breath.
Dumb deadness pilloweth day on every hill.
Earth has no sound, no motion the deadsky;
No current, sensible to ear or eye,
The muffled stream's unconquerable will.
The pulse of Being seemeth standing still;
And January is the King of Death.

This series of sonnets is called "The Year of Seeds;" and is followed by ample notes, explaining the political and social allusions. In all this Elliott appears in his strength. In his ballads, and his epic of "Etheline," he is but an ordinary man. It was when he would be humorous that he was most feeble; and of the heroic vein he had but little. Of the man toiling and thinking, however, he was a noble example; and these volumes show that he was such to the last.

WOMAN'S FRIENDSHIP; a Story of Domestic Life. By GRACE AGUILAR. Groombridge and Sons.

As civilization ameliorates the condition of society, the estimation in which woman is held increases. Her emancipation has of late been consistently prophesied. Not being yet completed, her cause as yet possesses all the charm of promise. The unbloomed rose is her emblem. Female authorship, too, has more than justified expectation; it has arrived at such unexpected excellence, as to warrant the wildest imaginings of hope. No wonder that some should have thought the mission of woman to be, in the long-run, no less than the saviour of modern society. Women themselves have partaken in this idealisation of their sex, and endeavoured to realise what the other has conceived. Grace Aguilar has not been behind, and in the tale before us has undertaken

To show us how divine a thing
A woman may be made.

Her heroine forms a friendship with a lady of rank, and has, therefore, to triumph over the impediment imposed by inequality of station. She has also another struggle. Ignorant of her birth, an adopted child, and believing herself to be the daughter of her ostensible parents, she falls into the liability of a marriage with her own brother. We wish that this incident had not been selected by Miss Aguilar; the interest of it is always disagreeable. It is needless to say that the fair author has treated it with delicacy and discretion. There is great pathos in one of the current situations. The family into which Florence has been adopted consists, besides herself, of a son and a daughter. Her supposed brother is a boy of genius. The family fall into poverty, and he lies on the bed of death.

One day, about the middle of February, Florence, returning some hours earlier from her daily avocations than usual, prevailed on her mother and Minnie to accept the invitation of a friend residing further in the country, and remained alone with her brother; several manuscripts were lying on a table near him, but, as was sometimes the case, he had sunk into a sort of doze, and fearing to disturb him, she sat down to continue Minnie's work, which lay on a table in the recess of a window, half hidden by the curtains; for nearly an hour she heard no movement, but then, aroused by the rustling of paper, she turned towards the couch. Walter was glancing over his manuscripts, and there was a deep flush on his cheek, a sparkle in his eye, giving eloquent answer to the thoughts he read. "And will ye, too, perish?" she heard him murmur, as if wholly unconscious of her presence; "Will ye, too, fade away and be forgotten, when the mind that has framed, the hand that has traced ye, shall lie mouldering in the grave? will no kindly spirit thro' and bound beneath your spell; no gentle heart find in ye an answer? Oh, blessed, indeed, is that poet's lot who wins the applause of a world, the love, the reverence, the blessing of the gifted and the good! to whom feels he has not lived, nor loved, nor sorrowed in vain! But the poet, to whom these things are all denied, who passeth from this beautiful earth, unknown, unloved, his name with his body buried in the cold, shrouding folds of death. Father; oh, my father, have mercy on thy child!" and covering his face with his

spread hands, Florence beheld him give way to a burst of such irrepressible agony, that the hot tears made their way between his transparent hands, and the attenuated frame shook with sobs.

Trembling with sympathizing emotion, Florence sank back in the chair she had quitted; she longed to throw herself on his neck, to beseech him to be comforted, to breathe of hope, but she felt she dared not; at length, and unable to resist the impulse, she glided forward and knelt beside him.

"Florence, my beloved sister! oh, I have terrified you, I forgot your presence, imagined myself alone; dearest, heed it not, I am better now, it was bodily weakness, only weakness, which will overpower me sometimes; you must not mind me."

It was several minutes ere Florence could reply; but as quickly as she could, she reverted to those treasured manuscripts, beseeching him to let her read them, it was so long since she had done so. With a faint smile he acceded. Florence, herself, was surprised; never had it seemed to her that such beautiful imagery, such glowing thought, such touching pathos, had breathed so powerfully in his compositions before. A new spirit appeared to have lighted on them; they were mostly detached pieces, forming, indeed, a treasured volume. He showed her, too, the beautiful designs with which it was to be illustrated; and Florence no longer marvelled at the burst of agony wrung from him by the thought, that those emanations, of no common genius, must pass away and be forgotten; but even she guessed not the real reason of his longing, and the poet betrayed it not.

"I dreamed," he said mournfully, "when in all the glow and heat of composition, that I was bequeathing a glorious gift to my country, wreathing my name with immortality. I seemed to forget all the difficulties, the impossibilities, which prevented the attainment of my darling wish; but now, dearest, now I feel it is a shadow that I have sought, a vain, shapeless shadow; it needs influence, wealth, or, to say the least, a name, and I have neither—no, no, they must die with me."

"Die!" murmured Florence, almost inaudibly, and she paused in deep and mournful thought; "but if you were strong and well, Walter, would you not make some effort yourself? at least ask the opinion of some good publisher; it might not then be so impossible as it now seems."

"If I were well, oh! Florence, I should do many things, and this would be one of them, I own; but I dare not think of this," he added hurriedly, and evidently with pain; "the struggle for submission has been mine only too lately. I know not how to trace, to love, the mandate that chaineth me, a useless burden, to my couch, when every exertion is needed to support my beloved mother and my helpless sisters; and yet, oh! Florence, morning, noon, and night, I pray to see and feel this; for my better spirit tells me that good it must be, or it would not come from an all-loving God."

"And He will grant us both this blessed trust in his own good time, my brother; but in this case, dearest Walter, let me act for you, trust the MS. to me, and let me endeavour to do with it as you would yourself."

Her brother looked at her with affection and astonishment. "You know not the difficulties you undertake, my Florence," he said; "how many hopes will be raised only to be disappointed; how much fatigue encountered—"

"I care not," was her instant answer; "I am so accustomed now to independent wanderings, that even the crowded streets of London have lost their terrors: do not fear for me; and if I should succeed, Walter, dear Walter, what would previous disappointments, previous anxiety be then?"

The beaming countenance of the young poet was her truest answer, and once the precious MS. deposited in her hands, Florence permitted no difficulty to deter her; weary and often exhausted as she felt from seven, sometimes eight successive hours passed in teaching, she would not return home till she had accomplished something in the furtherance of her trust.

Florence is ultimately successful in her efforts. She finds a publisher, who finds a physician. The following interview is touching:—

Much affected, Morton pressed his hand, and entreated him to set his mind at rest, and not to dwell on such gloomy fancies—he was sure they had no foundation. If Florence had still been in the room, she would not have watched Sir Charles's expressive countenance in vain: a mournful interest first removed the unimpassioned calm; then strong emotion; and finally he rose from his seat and strode to the window. Recalled by Morton's questions if he could not prescribe for Mr. Leslie, to prevent such a constant recurrence of excitement; he asked no question, but hastily wrote a prescription, saying, as he did so,

"This will calm, I wish I could say cure, young man; change your ardent temperament, your throbbing brain, for the matter-of-fact, the unimpassioned, and health may return."

"Change!" responded Walter, clasping his hands with strong emotion—"change!—become like the crowd—the hireling herd—that know no emotion but interest, no love but for gold—with no vision of beauty, of truth, of good! No, no; better twenty years of suffering body with mental joy, than seventy of such health and such existence. I would not change!"

But though Florence could not summon sufficient courage to remain while the interview lasted, suspense became so intolerable that she felt as if the most dreaded reality could be better borne. Hardly knowing her own intentions, she waited in a little sitting-room below, till they descended; then springing forward, she caught hold of Sir Charles's hand, and looked up in his face with cheeks and lips perfectly blanched, and every effort to speak died away in indistinct murmurs. Only too well accustomed to such painful scenes, the physician gently led her within the parlour and closed the door; the action recalled voice, and she gasped forth—

"Oh! is there not hope? will you not save him? Tell me he will not die!"

"My good young lady, life and death are not in the hands of man; yet it were cruel, positively cruel, to give you hope. Your brother's mind has been his poison—I dare not tell you—he may live."

"But he will linger—he may be spared us many years yet," persisted Florence, in the wild accents of one determined against belief. "It cannot be that he will go now—so young—so—but forgive me," she added, when the hysterical sobs gave way, "tell me, I am better now—I can bear it—I ought to know, for my poor mother's sake, how long we may call him ours?"

The reply was given kindly and carefully; but what language, what gentleness may soften the bitter anguish of such words? Florence heard, and yet she sank not. She bade farewell to those kind friends; she saw them go, but still she stood as if thought, sense, life itself were frozen; and then she rushed up the stairs into her own room, secured the door, and sinking on her knees, buried her face in the bed-clothes, and her slight frame shook beneath its agony.

Another hour, and that suffering girl was seated by her brother's couch, holding his hand in hers, and with a marble cheek, but faint sweet smile, listening to and sympathizing in his lovely dreams of fame. And such is woman; her tears are with her God, her smile with man: the heart may break, and who shall know it?

This is decidedly good writing. Altogether we may congratulate Miss Aguilar on the spirit, motive, and composition of this story. Her aims are eminently moral, and her cause comes recommended by the most beautiful associations. These, connected with the skill here evinced in their development, ensure the success of her labours.

THE POOR ARTIST; OR, SEVEN EYESIGHTS AND ONE OBJECT.

Van Voorst.

In these days, when all manner of "glorious things" are said and sung in praise of the dignity of labour, there is, nevertheless, a growing tendency to abridge it wherever possible. Work is esteemed more for its results than for itself. Useless labour is a needless waste, and to prevent it a wise economy. All manner of facilities are afforded. Learning is made easy and science beautiful. In both, aforesaid, we found abundance of the fabulous, by which students were misled, waylaid, and perplexed. But the fabulous was substituted for science and learning, and much labour has it since cost us to distinguish it from them. The mind still lingers upon it with delight, and there is still occasionally a desire to unite it with them. The present work is an attempt, as acknowledged by its epigraph or motto, to enshrine "Science in Fable;" it aims, in the language of the preface, "to give a romantic account of science in illustrating the different character of vision in different creatures."

The attempt deserves commendation, as much for its novelty, its specific bearings being considered, as for its utility. It cannot but aid in the cultivation of what the writer aptly calls the "reasoning imagination." The faculty has large play in all philosophising conducted on generous principles.

The principle sought to be illustrated in this little work is that of the Oriental sage, who declares that, with each individual species, it is "the thing behind the eye, or the mind," that causes each individual "really to see the self-same object differently, and sometimes with a very extraordinary difference; or, perhaps, not to see it at all, though it lies palpable to view." This principle is in the book exemplified by an account of "Six sketches, derived from the minute observation of one object by six different eyesights." The rationale is thus given:—

While the difference that exists between ocular perceptions among those of the same species is undeniable by reason (though constantly denied in practice, because each person is apt to make his own eyes the standard for all others), these sketches yet more forcibly illustrate and demonstrate the wonderful difference which exists between the eyes of creatures of a different species; whereby it seems clear, to adopt the words of a well-known artist and mathematician, that an external object varies with the nature of the eyes that look at it; the object is the first term, or A; the mind the third term, or C; and the peculiar eyes are the intermediate term, or X; representing and interpreting the object according to their peculiar powers. Hence, it follows that there are many different external worlds, as there are different species of eyes. "Visionary," do you call it? dreamy abstraction, and so forth, through all the usual common-places of Materialists,—no more wine, I thank you, who talk as if they were not more palpable to reason, though it may be more palpable to everyday feet and horses' hoofs. "Yes, we do call it a dream!" boldly shouted two or three voices.

"A poetical craze!—a vision!" cried others, with taunting jocularity.

"Tally-ho!" shouted one of the fox-hunters.

"To those," exclaimed our excited friend, with a grave look, "who can eat

beef-steaks heartily, and seek to know no more, the obvious facts of Nature as they seem and serve, are enough; but to those who have any anxiety to advance as far as 'permitted to us' in the study of the *miraculous* world that surrounds us, the wonderful differences of the visual faculty must ever possess a profound interest."

Our Artist lost this patron soon after, together with sundry engagements which had been made with certain of the guests before dinner. He also found, in other quarters, that he was not invited so often, and that the number of his commissions for pictures were rapidly falling off. One day he received an anonymous letter, containing these words:—

"Stick to cattle and clover-fields, my boy. Be wise."

He showed it to Aurelia. She smiled, and said she thought it looked like her uncle's hand; adding, that perhaps it *could* be as well if he did not insist so often on what he had learned from sources not easily accessible to other people.

Our friend had suffered so much in his long struggle to obtain success, that he did not altogether turn a deaf ear to his wife's counsel. Still, among his friends—those whom he felt he "could trust,"—he continually adverted to the sketches which had illustrated, if not demonstrated—and for the first time—the wonderful fact in Nature, that there are as many different worlds as there are different organs of sight; and that the Creator has thus made, for each different species an infinity out of one set of objects.

Our readers will expect that we should condescend to some explanation.

A Bee, an Ant, a Spider, a climbing Perch, a Cat, a Redbreast,

and the artist himself, with his spiritual vision open, present different conformation of organs, differing also in number, size, and position, and consequently different representations of one and the same object. These are very cleverly and amusingly described, and we much regret that our space will not permit their repetition. The object itself was nothing, but "a bright new sovereign," with a large drop of dew upon its surface, which had, according to the different visual media of the various observers, become the medium of as many natural wonders, as it lay shining upon the grass, and, at intervals, shot forth keen rays of light.

Universality is made up of countless individualities; and not only does each different species of creature feel itself of great importance to nature, but each individual of each species regards itself as of special account, and compares itself complacently with all the world that surrounds it. Each individual, of necessity, makes himself, in a great measure, the standard of comparison for all others: by his own senses he measures yours; by his own excellence or incapacity he estimates the qualities of others. The far sight miscalculates the near sight; the near sight miscalculates the far; the simple sight, which only sees unity, cannot judge of the double sight, which takes in two different objects—one with each eye; nor can it judge of the compound sight, which sees only a complication of parts—perhaps only one part distinctly at a time, and the rest as in a dim kaleidoscope—not to speak of many wonders, such as the learning of man has never yet fathomed or conceived. But each of these owners of eyes (and at this moment, and, indeed, throughout this little book, all eyes are equally respected by the author, and no favour shown)—each of these owners of eyes, let us repeat, very naturally, and of necessity, considers his especial pair, or set, as the standard of all correct vision. If he happen to have imperfect eyes, and to know it, then he makes the eyes of his species stand for his belief in perfection. It is quite clear that all of us—men, bees, ants, fish, spiders, cats, robins, and the rest—see things very differently, not only as shown in the present fragment of natural history, but throughout creation; and equally certain is it, that each species sets itself up as the true seer of things as they are. The grand question therefore is, Who is right? Is nobody right, anyhow? or, Are we all right, somehow? As for our Poor Artist—the seventh of these eyesights—he entertained no manner of doubt but that he had "found a sovereign!"

Under all this, there runs a vein of philosophical satire and keen irony. The primary truth sought to be conveyed is, that the appearance of objects is dependent on the manner of perception; and that, though they may be something of themselves, whatever they may appear to different visions, the prerogative of actuality cannot, without arrogance, be claimed for the eyesight of man. The secondary truth is, that in our judgment of a work of art we differ as much as in our original perception of the object represented, our critical opinions being modified by personal character, disposition, pursuit, profession, and prejudice. The work is charmingly written.

THE DUTY ON BRICKS.

On Wednesday, a large meeting of brick manufacturers took place at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, for the purpose of adopting a memorial to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, soliciting a drawback on the present stocks as an act of justice to which the trade considered itself entitled upon the repeal of the duty on bricks—Mr. Heron in the chair.

The following resolution was adopted:—

That the sudden and unexpected abolition of the duty on bricks is both unjust and ruinous to the manufacturers, unless a drawback be allowed on the stock in hand, and calls for the immediate and combined efforts of the trade to obtain a drawback.

Mr. Rutter stated that the reasons assigned by Mr. Hayter for not assenting to the drawback were:—1. That the repeal of the duty would lead to an increased demand for bricks. 2. That there would be sufficient time for the old bricks to be worked off before the new bricks came in. 3. That the result of a drawback would be that the money would go into the pockets of railway contractors. He (Mr. Rutter) thought these arguments were fallacious, and, as the Government had allowed a drawback when the duty was taken off glass, silk, sugar, and other articles, there was no reason why the same act of justice should not be rendered to the brick manufacturers. It was no new thing to ask for a drawback, and no new thing to obtain it; and he hoped that in the present case exertions would be made towards securing the boon desired.

A memorial to the Chancellor of the Exchequer was then proposed and adopted, and signed by about 40 gentlemen—a small number of whom were to proceed forthwith as a deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in the interview which he accorded to the deputation, said he perceived the hardship complained of, and was much disposed to meet it. He could not, however, pledge himself to any definite line of policy, but he would undertake to say that the Government would allow the brick manufacturers some sort of compromise, although it was impossible for him to state to what extent such compromise might go. In the meantime, the course he would suggest was, that in a day or two's time some gentleman should put a question to him upon the subject in the House of Commons, and he would then receive a definite answer as to the intentions of the Government.

The deputation then withdrew, highly satisfied with the result of their interview.

On Wednesday the Government Bill to Repeal the Duties and Drawbacks of Excise on Bricks was printed. The duties and drawbacks on bricks, as well as the Act 2 and 3 Vic. c. 24, is repealed, except as to arrears and penalties in respect thereof. According to a recent return to Parliament the duties last year amounted to £448,826 19s. 3½d., of which £26,014 0s. 7d. was collected in London, and the remainder in the country. In Manchester the duties collected in 1849 were £32,034 14s. 1½d., in Rochester £32,284 15s. 2½d., and in Surrey £37,283 3s. 1½d.

PIRATES.—A return to the House of Commons, moved for by Mr. Hume, shows that from the year 1825 to 1849, £57,255 have been paid as bounty for the capture of pirates. In 1849, the sum was £18,190; in 1845, £3450; in 1837, £7865; in 1828, £4850; in 1825, £4745; in 1829, £4065; in 1839, £2210; in 1827, £1955; in 1833, £1585; in 1843, £1280. The number for which £5 a head was paid greatly exceeded the number killed for which £20 a head was paid. In the above account, the affairs in China, in which the *Pilot*, *Columbine*, *Fury*, *Medea*, &c., were engaged, and the affair with the *Saribas* and *Sakarran* pirates, are not included.

RAJAH BROOKE AND THE BORNEO PIRATES.—A parliamentary paper, published on Monday, at the instance of Mr. Hume, contains copies and extracts of despatches relating to the suppression of piracy on the coast of Borneo. As there appears to be some doubt with respect to the loss which the pirates sustained in the engagement of the 31st of July last, the following extract from the certificate of Sir Christopher Rawlinson, Recorder of the Court of Judicature, Prince of Wales Island, Singapore and Malacca, removes all doubt on the subject:—"It has been proved to my satisfaction, by the evidence so adduced before me, that on the 31st of July, 1849, a force under the command of the said Arthur Farquhar, consisting of her Majesty's sloop *Royalist*, the Honourable East India Company's armed steamer tender *Ranee*, with a flotilla consisting of the gipsy, pinnace, and cutter of her Majesty's said sloop *Albatross*, fitted up as gun-boats, and manned by 73 officers and men of the said sloop *Albatross*, 13 officers and men of the said sloop *Royalist*, and 17 officers and men of the said steamer *Nemesis*, succeeded in capturing or destroying 80 of the said fleet of piratical prahus, at the place aforesaid. And I do further certify that the number of piratical persons killed on the said occasion by the said armed force was 50, and that the aggregate number of the piratical men, forming the crews of the said 88 piratical prahus, who were alive on board the said 88 piratical prahus at the beginning of the attack thereof, but who were not taken or killed, could not have been less than 2140."

STATISTICS OF THE IRISH POOR-LAW.—The union financial statement of the Irish Poor-law Commissioners, printed on Saturday last, gives the following statement of the operation of the relief act in the provinces of Ireland in the month of October, 1848, and the month of November, 1849. The statement is very satisfactory, as showing a considerable decrease of pauperism, and consequently diminution of expenditure. The amount of poor-rate collected in the provinces in October, 1848, was £179,104; and the grants in aid, £5193. The in-door maintenance for the month amounted to £44,664; the out-door relief to £28,130; and the other expenses to £46,690; making a total of £119,493. The average number of persons relieved during the month was—in-door, 139,781; and out-door, 208,418; making a total receiving relief of 348,199 persons. The statement for the month of November, 1849, shows that the amount of rate collected during the month was £207,288, and that the grants in aid were £2109. The total cost of maintenance within the month was £39,092; viz. £41,279 in maintenance, £2791 in out-door relief, and £47,022 in other expenses. The average number of persons relieved during the month was—in-door, 167,032; and out-door, 99,508; making a total of 266,590, as compared with 348,199 relieved in October, 1848. The workhouse accommodation in November, 1849, could have provided for 245,706 persons.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

AFFAIRS OF GREECE.

The Marquis of Lansdowne expressed a hope that before the noble Lord opposite went into the subject of which he had given notice, he would consider whether it was advisable to discuss a matter relative to which negotiations were still pending.

Lord Stanley felt the full extent of the appeal made to him; and in the observations which he should make he would confine himself strictly to such parts of the case as were to be found in the documents which were open to their Lordships and the public. The noble Lord then went into a detail of some of the circumstances connected with the present position of this country with respect to Greece, and referred to extracts from the correspondence which had taken place on this question. He expressed a strong expectation that nothing would shake the good understanding between France, Russia, and England, upon whose amicable relations the peace of Europe and the world so materially depended. He concluded by asking why the delay occurred in sending the order to suspend hostile proceedings?

The Marquis of Lansdowne, acknowledging that the noble Lord had strictly confined himself to the limits within which he had promised to keep, said that the first intimation his noble friend at the head of the Foreign Department had received of the intention of the French Government to offer their good offices was on the 5th of February, in a private conversation with M. Druin de Lhuys, who, however, acknowledged that he had not then been formally authorised to make that offer. His noble friend might, therefore, have declined to act on that information; but on the very same day he wrote a letter to Mr. Wyse, informing him of the expected offer of good offices on the part of France. The formal offer was made on the 7th, and on the 15th a formal despatch was sent to Athens, commanding the suspension of the blockade; and on the 16th another despatch to the same effect was sent by another channel. He believed the French Government were now perfectly satisfied on that point. It would be seen, thus, that all the haste possible was made in this matter.

The subject then dropped. Some returns on the subject of Abuses on board Emigrant-ships were ordered on the motion of the Earl of Mountcashell.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

The Speaker took the chair a few minutes before four o'clock.

EVICCTIONS IN IRELAND.

In reply to a question from Mr. P. SCROPE, Lord J. RUSSELL said the Government had no measure in contemplation to introduce immediately to check the wholesale evictions and house-levelling at present going on in Ireland.

THE BUDGET.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee of Ways and Means, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER proceeded to lay before it the financial statement for the ensuing year. He had to lay before the House two estimates—one, that up to the 5th of April next, and the other up to the 5th of April, 1851. He had estimated the income for this year at £52,262,000, but he was happy to say that it would probably amount to £52,874,000. He could not, however, take the estimate for next year so high, as during the last quarter the returns had not been so good. He would, however, take them at £52,785,500. He had estimated the expenditure of last year at £50,853,622, but it amounted only to £50,553,651; and he calculated that next year there would be a surplus of two millions and a quarter. He had calculated last year on a surplus of only £104,000, whereas the increase amounted to £523,500. He did not, however, anticipate such favourable results from the Customs this year as last, for there would be a probable loss on sugar of between four and five hundred thousand pounds; on brandy, and likewise on corn, there would also be probably a loss. The right hon. gentleman then enumerated the various sources of revenue, from which he anticipated revenue as follows:—

Excise	14,045,000
Stamps	6,860,000
Assessed Taxes	4,320,000
Income Tax	5,410,000
Customs	20,000,000
Post-Office	820,000
Crown Lands	160,000
Miscellaneous	260,000
Old Stores	410,000

Making a total of £52,265,000. With respect to the expenditure, the interest on the

Funded Debt was	28,105,000
Other charges on the Consolidated Fund	2,620,000
Navy Estimates	6,613,000
Ordnance	2,434,417
The Militia	110,000
Commissionariat	500,000
Miscellaneous	211,159
Excess of expenditure in former years	4,000,000

Making altogether an expenditure of £50,613,582. To this should be added the expenses of the new Houses of Parliament, and for a building to hold the records of the House. Upon the whole he calculated, after meeting their expenses, upon an available surplus of fifteen hundred thousand, in round numbers. The right hon. gentleman then adverted to the propositions which had been made to reduce the duties on windows, tea, timber, malt, soap, bricks, paper, advertisements, and attorneys' certificates, and also the proposition of the hon. member for Buckingham, to place on the Consolidated Fund certain charges otherwise provided for hitherto, and said he would not assent to those propositions, for which no special case had been made out. When he remembered that, within the last few years, no less a sum than £148,000,000 had been laid out in railways, he could not help thinking that there was a strong symptom of a return to more prosperous times. He admitted that the price of corn was lower than he had anticipated. But the price was also low in France, and yet it would not be said that the lowness of price there was owing to excessive importation. He did not think there was any reason to suppose that the present low price would be the average price hereafter, for the average price in France, Belgium, and Holland, for a series of years, was from 48s. to 49s. per qr. He felt convinced that the skill and industry of the British agriculturists would surmount the existing pressure, though he was willing to admit that many must fall in the struggle. This might be much to be regretted, but no one would on that account argue that there should be a stop to improvements, any more than they would contend that railways ought not to be made because some innkeepers on the old road would thereby be ruined. He would now state his own views on the subject. He had thought that they should first direct their attention to a reduction of the debt, and he should state to the House the fact that since 1831 we had borrowed no less than £35,000,000, while in the same twenty years we had only applied £8,000,000 towards its re-payment, leaving a balance of debt of no less than £27,000,000. If they were always to borrow when the revenue was deficient, and never to pay when they had an excess, he could not see how they were to get out of debt at all. Neither could he see how they would get rid of the income-tax if they were to apply every surplus to the reduction of taxation instead of to the reduction of the debt. He felt it desirable, however, that some relief should be given in the way of taxation, and the first class to which he should apply the principle would be the small holders of land, by reducing the stamp duty on the sales of land up to £1000, and rendering it more equitable on transfers above that amount. Also a reduction of the duty on mortgages and bonds, and to reduce the stamp duty on leases from one to half per cent. He also thought it desirable that the habitations of the labouring classes should be improved, and he should therefore propose the total repeal of the duty on bricks. He estimated the loss to the revenue at £300,000 on stamps, and at £455,000 on bricks, making a total of £755,000, which was about one-half of the surplus available. He thought, therefore, that he was making a fair distribution of the surplus, one half to the reduction of taxation and one half to the reduction of the debt. He proposed to make advances for the purposes of drainage and land improvement as an inducement to an expenditure of capital, which could not fail to be considered a national as well as an individual benefit. The last sum granted in this way for England and Scotland, £2,000,000; and of this, owing to priority of application, the gentleman north of the Tweed had got no less than £1,000,000. (loud laughter.) He proposed to advance another £2,000,000, and to take care to reserve a fair share of it for England. He also proposed to advance for similar purposes £1,000,000 to Ireland, £800,000 of which should be for arterial drainage. He hoped to be able to make these advances without any addition whatever to the public debt. These were the proposals he had to submit to the House. He also proposed to apply £25,000 in order to get rid of the Perpetual Annuities. He hoped to be able to make these advances without making any addition whatever to the funded debt, if the House would leave him a surplus to do so. He proposed, by the payment of a sum of £250,000 out of the surplus in hand, to extinguish the Equivalent Fund, which was a charge on the public funds of £10,000 a year, since the junction of the debt of Scotland with that of England at the time of the Union. That would leave him £500,000; and that he thought the House should leave him as a reserve fund. The right hon. gentleman concluded by moving a vote of £9,200,000, to be raised by Exchequer Bills, for the service of the year.

After some discussion, in which Mr. HUME, Mr. NEWDEGATE, Lord J. MANNERS, and several other members took part, the motion was agreed to. The House then went into Committee of Supply, when several votes for the Army and Navy Estimates were agreed to.—Adjourned at half-past one o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

APPELLATE JURISDICTION OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Lord BROUGHAM called the attention of their Lordships to the constitution of the House of Lords and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as Courts of appeal from the decisions of our colonial tribunals, and quoted a number of statistics to show their inadequacy to these duties. He praised the education now given at the East India College at Haileybury; and impressed upon the Government the importance of selecting highly-qualified judges for our colonial possessions, strongly condemning the paltry salaries of judicial functionaries there, and the miserable policy which, by paying them insufficiently and refusing them retiring pensions, prevented the best lawyers from accepting these appoint-

ments. He described the way in which judges are appointed to our colonies as "a frightful state of things, brought about by a despicable want of a true and rational economy." He concluded by moving a series of resolutions in accordance with his speech.

The resolutions were laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed. A short conversation took place in answer to a question from the Earl of Malmesbury, in reply to which the Marquis of CLANRICARDE deprecated the proposed non-transmission of the mails on Sunday, and stated that he was about to place returns upon the table which would show how much diminution had taken place in the amount of Post-office labour on Sundays in consequence of the recent alterations.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

THE DOCTRINE OF CHURCH RESPECTING BAPTISM.

Mr. HUME said he had seen two "Protests," signed by the Rev. A. Denison, one of them stating that—"Whereas the Crown (in certain recent cases) has, through a Court constituted by act of Parliament, claimed a power to control, vary, or reverse the decisions of the Courts of the Church in matters of doctrine, and whereas such sentence must necessarily be false, therefore I protest against a state of the law which empowers the Judicial Committee to take cognisance of matters of doctrine, and I pledge myself to use all lawful means to prevent it." The hon. member said he wished to ask the noble Lord whether it was the intention of the Government to take any notice of this document.

Lord J. RUSSELL: I think it is just to Mr. Denison that I should read to the House a statement which he has sent to me this morning, and which professes to be a statement of his opinion as regards the supremacy of the Crown in connexion with this case. The statement is as follows:—

I have not denied, and do not deny that the Queen's Majesty is supreme governor of this Church and realm, and is, in virtue thereof, supreme over all causes ecclesiastical and civil, judging in causes spiritual by the judges of the spirituality, and in causes temporal by temporal judges, as enacted by the statute 24th of Henry VIII., c. 12; and I have not impeached, and do not impeach, any part of the royal supremacy as set forth in the second canon and in the 27th article of our Church; but I humbly conceive that the Constitution does not attribute to the Crown, without a synod lawfully assembled, the right of deciding a question of doctrine; and I think, although disclaimed by the Lords of the Judicial Committee of her Majesty's Privy Council, in what, as appears to me, has been done, indirectly indeed, but unequivocally, in the late case of "Gorham v. the Bishop of Exeter."

March 18, 1850.

GEORGE ANTHONY DENISON.

Now, Sir, I have no hesitation in saying that I think Mr. Denison is utterly mistaken in this opinion, and that the judgment given by the Committee of the Privy Council is within their jurisdiction, and such as they were authorised by law to give. I believe also that it is a decision which has given great satisfaction to the Church. But as the hon. member asks me, further, what course the Government intends to take upon these protests, I must say that, although it may hereafter be that measures adopted on the part of those who think with this gentleman may make it necessary to take a step on the part of the Government—although I guard myself by saying this may be so necessary—I should be most reluctant to take any steps against men who are giving what they conceive is a conscientious expression to their views with regard to this Church, and I should fear that any such act might tend to disturb still further the harmony of the Church. (Hear, hear.) Therefore, though dissenting entirely from Mr. Denison, I think it may be doubtful whether he intends to deny the authority of the Privy Council, or only to use every lawful means to alter the law. The Government, as at present advised, do not intend to take any steps on his protest.

HUNGARIAN REFUGEES.

To a question from Mr. Osborne, Lord PALMERSTON stated that the Government had been so far parties to the conduct of the Turkish Government, in banishing and confining Kossuth and other Hungarian refugees in Asia Minor, as to recommend the Porte, through our Ambassador at Constantinople, to make the detention of those persons as short as was consistent with its engagements, and to render their residence as little irksome and inconvenient as possible. The noble Foreign Secretary added that he had no hesitation in declaring that, in his opinion, it would have been desirable that the Porte felt itself at liberty so to do, had these refugees not been detained at all. The real engagement the Porte was under was to prevent the Turkish territory from being made the ground of intrigue against neighbouring powers.

THE STAMP DUTIES.

The House having gone into committee, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER brought forward his propositions as to the stamp duties, which he explained, at the outset, related only to transferred property, bonds, mortgages, and leases. The general revision of the stamp duties had been under the consideration of the various Governments for many years past, since that of Lord Althorp; but the enormous amount of details had deterred any Minister from bringing the whole subject forward, and he was satisfied it was best to take it piecemeal, and do as much as was practicable at one time. The general tenor of his proposition was to adopt, as far as practicable, the principle of an *ad valorem* duty, making the "jumps" of duty at every £25 up to £1000, and then at every £100. Moreover, he proposed a great remission of the duties on transactions under £1000, whether in the way of conveyances or mortgages. He would state first (as the simplest class) the present and proposed duties on

BONDS AND MORTGAGES.			
Present Duty.		Proposed Duty.	
Not exceeding £50	£1 0 0	£0 5 2	
" 100	1 10 0	0 10 0	
" 200	2 0 0	1 0 0	
And so on.			
CONVEYANCES AND TRANSFERS OF LAND.			
Present Duty.		Proposed Duty.	
Not exceeding £20	£0 10 0	£0 2 6	
" 50	1 15 0	0 7 6	
" 100	2 10 0	0 10 0	
" 150	2 15 0	1 0 0	
" 200	3 0 0	1 5 0	
" 300	4 0 0	2 0 0	
" 400	5 0 0	2 5 0	
" 500	6 0 0	3 0 0	
" 600	7 0 0	3 5 0	
" 700	8 0 0	4 0 0	
" 800	9 0 0	4 5 0	
" 900	10 0 0	5 0 0	
" 1000	11 0 0	5 5 0	

The only objection he had heard to his alterations of duty was with respect to the subdivision of freeholds for purposes of acquiring the parliamentary franchise. But he believed that, promoted as this system was by powerful societies, the present duty would be no check upon it. He should be sorry to see land so subdivided as it was in France, where the proprietors were mere paupers; but he also thought it would be well to hold out to the working man, as the reward of a life of labour, something better than the almshouse or the workhouse. The following were the duties upon

LEASES.			
Present Duty.		Proposed Duty.	
Rent .. £20	£1 0	Rent .. £25	2s. 0d.
Rent .. 100	1 10	Rent .. 50	5s. 0d.
Rent .. 200	2 0	Rent .. 75	7s. 6d.
		Rent .. 100	10s. 0d.

With respect to Irish leases, he had an alteration to propose, which, however, he left it to the Irish members to accept or reject; and he would enter into no further details. In fact, he proposed a short resolution with a long schedule. It was desirable, as far as possible, to bring this measure to a speedy conclusion, as it would confer great convenience upon the buyers or sellers of land. He desired that the House would permit him to take the preliminary proceedings without discussion, for which there would be ample time, as he meant to bring the measure before the House at as early a period after Easter as possible.

Colonel SIMMONS regretted that the duty on fire insurances had not been taken off.

The resolutions were agreed to, and leave was given to bring in a bill founded thereon.

DRAINAGE OF LAND.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then moved resolutions to advance £2,000,000 to England and Scotland for the purposes of drainage and the improvement of land, and £1,000,000 to Ireland for arterial drainage and the improvement of land, according to the design expounded by him in his budget. He proposed that repayments should be made at the rate of 6½ per cent. per annum, so that the advances, with interest, would be paid off in twenty-two years.

After a short conversation, the resolutions were agreed to, and a bill was ordered to be brought in founded on them.

THE FRANCHISE (IRELAND.)

The House went into committee on the Parliamentary Voters, &c. (Ireland) Bill, and agreed to clauses down to clause 37 inclusive, after a lengthened discussion and several divisions. In the course of the debate,

Lord J. RUSSELL intimated that he would be willing to consider, at a future time, a suggestion thrown out by Mr. Monsell, for grouping several small towns around parliamentary boroughs in Ireland, on the principle of the Scotch districts of burghs.

The Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on the 11th of April.

The Mutiny Bill, the Marine Mutiny Bill, and the Fees (Court of Common Pleas) Bill, were read a second time.

The School Districts Contributions Bill, on the motion of Mr. BAINES, passed through committee.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER obtained leave to bring in a bill to repeal the duty on bricks.—Adjourned at one o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE EXHIBITION OF 1851.

Lord BROUGHAM moved for some returns relative to the proposed Exhibition of all Nations in 1851, and took the occasion to express his opinion that it would indeed be an "exhibition." He marvelled that English tradespeople were such fools as to subscribe their money to provide accommodation for the traders of all nations to come over to undersell them in their own markets. The noble and learned Lord strenuously objected to the sacrifice of Hyde Park, one of the chief lungs of the metropolis, to this contemplated exposition, and suggested Victoria Park as a suitable site.

The Earl of CARLISLE upheld the projected Exhibition, and said that, in his opinion, Hyde Park was the most convenient and best adapted locality.

The return was ordered.

The Railways Abandonment Bill was read a third time and passed.

Adjourned to Thursday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Sir W. SOMERVILLE stated that it was his intention to bring in a bill, after Easter, to promote the public health in Ireland.

QUESTIONS.

In reply to a question put by Mr. Gladstone, Lord J. RUSSELL stated that he did not think it would be expedient to make provision in the Australian Colonies Government Bill to make application of the principle of local self-government to the affairs of the Church of England in those colonies.

Sir FRANCIS BARING, in answer to Colonel Chatterton, admitted that it was true that the Government had accepted tenders for the supply of 1500 tierces of navy pork from a Hamburg house, refusing tenders from Irish provision merchants for the supply of that article.

Colonel CHATTERTON gave notice that he would draw the attention of the House to the foreign contracts shortly after Easter.

THE LORD-LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.

In reply to a question by Mr. Hume, who stated that he had a motion on the paper for the day relating to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, Lord J. RUSSELL said that he had already informed the House that the question had been brought under the consideration of her Majesty's Government; and that it was his intention to bring in a Bill to abolish the office of Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

THE SLAVE-TRADE—THE AFRICAN SQUADRON.

Petitions against the removal of the squadron from the coast of Africa were presented by Sir R. H. Inglis, from the Church Missionary Society of Africa and the East; by Mr. Hald from the Wesleyan Missionary Society; by Sir E. N. Buxton, from Jamaica, St. Ives, Saffron Walden, Ware, and other places; and by Mr. Moffatt, from the Anti-Slavery Society of Exeter.

Mr. HUTT then rose to move that an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that her Majesty will be pleased to direct that negotiations be forthwith entered into for the purpose of releasing this country from all treaty engagements with foreign states for maintaining armed vessels on the coast of Africa to suppress the trade in slaves. He said that the time was at last arrived when, in accordance with the reports of two committees of that House appointed to consider the subject of the suppression of the slave-trade, it became his duty to submit a motion to the House on that grave and important subject. The motion to which he wished to call the attention of the House was in effect a declaration that it was expedient for this country to abstain from all future attempts at the suppression of the slave-trade by force of arms; in order to carry out which declaration it was in the first instance necessary to release this country from all treaty engagements which bound it to the maintenance of the African squadron. The expediency of this change of policy had been very strongly impressed on the minds of the majority of both the committees to whom this inquiry was committed by the House. And here he might be permitted to remark, that strenuous efforts had been made to cast discredit on the recommendation of the committee, by the allegation that the report had been carried only by his (Mr. Hutt's) casting vote (Cries of "Hear, hear"). His honourable friend opposite cheered that statement; but he could only say in reply, that if that statement had been confined merely to the writers in newspapers and to the scribblers of pamphlets, he should not have disputed its accuracy. As, however, it was made by the noble Lord at the head of the Government at the close of the last session, when he (Mr. Hutt) was absent from the House from illness, it was necessary that he should notice it. He heard with regret and surprise that the noble Lord had made that statement, since it was one which hardly became his high character and station. It was, indeed, one of those half-truths to which disingenuous men resort, when they tried to steal an advantage which they could not fairly acquire. At the close of the session of 1848 it was considered desirable by the House that the committee which sat during that session should be re-appointed, but it happened that before the next session arrived two members of the committee were no longer members of Parliament. Lord Courtenay had devoted his great talents to the assistance of the Poor-law Board, and Mr. Barkly had been appointed the governor of British Guiana. There was one favourable point in connexion with the absence of those gentlemen, namely, that they ranked among the majority of the committee of 1848; and therefore, if in 1849 the report was only carried by the casting vote of the chairman, that circumstance must be attributed, not to any change in the opinions of the committee, but to one of those casualties arising from the accidental absence of members, a casualty which would occur both in the House and in committees, and one to which he should have thought that the leader of the House of Commons would have been the last man to appeal. The report of the last committee, therefore, was virtually carried by a majority of the committee in every sense of the word. Mr. Barkly was one of the West India body, with whose votes he did not expect to be favoured that night; and he regretted that the opinion of one of the members for Devon had yet to undergo a change, which the evidence given before the committee had produced in the just and honourable mind of Lord Courtenay. Having thus endeavoured to relieve the report of the committee from the prejudices which had been raised against it, he would proceed to state some of the facts and circumstances which, in the opinion of the committee, justified their report. It was now thirty-one years ago since Great Britain, having negotiated various treaties with foreign states, despatched to the coast of Africa armed vessels to carry those treaties into execution, and then we had the memorable blockade of the coast of Africa, the true circumstances of which, as well as its final abandonment, had yet to be recorded in our history (Cheers). No sooner had we commenced taking measures for the forcible suppression of the slave-trade than it began to increase. In 1815 the highest amount of human beings exported from the coast of Africa was 90,000, but in 1819 it reached 103,000; and the number continued to increase under circumstances of aggravated atrocity. Such, indeed, was the progress of the slave-trade, that the Duke of Wellington, our Minister at the Congress of Verona, acting under the direction of Mr. Canning, then Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, laid before the ministers of the several states of Europe a memorandum to which he begged to call the attention of the House. In his opinion that memorandum deserved the utmost consideration, because the description which it gave agreed precisely with that which an eloquent person, speaking on the subject, would apply to the slave-trade at the present moment. The extract which he would read to the House was taken from a memorandum dated the 24th November, 1822. After adverting to the great sacrifices made by this country for the suppression of the slave-trade, it went on to say:—"I have the means of proving that the slave-trade has been, since the year 1815, and now is, carried on to a greater extent than it had been at any former period. This contraband trade is attended by circumstances much more horrible than anything that has ever been known to former times. It is not necessary here to enumerate the horrors respecting it, but it cannot be denied that all the attempts at prevention have tended to increase the aggregate of human suffering and the waste of human life in a ratio far exceeding the increase of positive numbers carried off into slavery. The dread of detection suggests expedients of concealment productive of the most dreadful sufferings to the cargo. The numbers put on board each vessel are far from being proportioned to the capacity of the vessels, and the mortality is frightful to a degree unknown since the attention of mankind was first called to the horrors of this traffic. There is no hesitation in declaring that it would have been far more consoling to humanity, and that by far a smaller number of human beings would have lost their lives by lingering and cruel suffering, if the trade had never been abolished by the laws of any country." Such was the description solemnly addressed to the states of Europe, by two of the first men of our age and country, at a time when the slave-trade had not assumed many of those horrible characteristics which now belonged to it. Some efforts were accordingly made to continue the work of repression, and for fifteen or sixteen years afterwards Great Britain made every possible effort to suppress the slave-trade by increasing the means of forcible repression. Measures were taken for increasing the number of our cruisers; and, by-and-by, steamers were added to sailing-vessels. Powers were obtained from almost all the states of Europe to visit and to search vessels on the high seas suspected of being engaged in the slave-trade, and these were not only liable to seizure, but, if condemned, were broken up. Brazil, Portugal, and Spain were bound down by more rigid treaties than had existed before, and no measure was neglected which the enthusiasm of Exeter Hall or the ability of the Foreign Office could devise. Now, what was the result of all these exertions? (Hear, hear.) He had read the description given by the Duke of Wellington of the extent to which the slave-trade had been carried up to 1822, and he would now read a letter which was written in 1839 by another individual, loved and honoured in his own time, and who certainly had deserved well to be remembered afterwards. In 1839, Lord John Russell, being then Secretary of State for the Colonies, addressed a letter to the Lords of the Treasury, in which he found the following passage:—"The state of the foreign slave-trade has for some time past engaged much of the attention of her Majesty's confidential advisers. In whatever light this traffic is viewed, it must be regarded as an evil of incalculable magnitude; the injuries it inflicts on the lawful commerce of the country, the constant expense incurred in the employment of ships of war for the suppression of it, and the annual sacrifice of so many valuable lives in the service, however deeply to be lamented, are not the most disastrous results of this system. The honour of the British Crown is compromised by the habitual evasion of the treaties subsisting between her Majesty and foreign powers for the abolition of the slave-trade; and the calamities which, in defiance of religion, humanity, and justice, are inflicted on a large proportion of the African continent, are such as cannot be contemplated without the deepest and most lively concern. To estimate the actual extent of the foreign slave-trade is, from the nature of the case, an attempt of extreme difficulty; nor can anything more than a general approximation to the truth be made. But I find it impossible to avoid the conclusion, that the average number of slaves introduced into foreign states or colonies in America and the West Indies, from the western coast of Africa, annually exceeds 100,000." The noble Lord took the western coast of Africa only, and the average number. It continued:—"In this estimate a very large deduction is made for the exaggerations which are more or less inseparable from all statements on a subject so well calculated to excite the feelings of every impartial and disinterested witness. But, making this deduction, the number of slaves actually landed in the importing countries affords but a very imperfect indication of the real extent of the calamities which this traffic inflicts on its victims. No record exists of the multitudes who perish in the overland journey to the African coast, or in the passage across the Atlantic, or of the still greater number who fall a sacrifice to the warfare, pillage, and cruelties by which the slave-trade is fed. Unhappily, however, no fact can be more certain than that such an importation as I have mentioned presupposes and involves a waste of human life, and a sum of human misery, proceeding from year to year, without respite or intermission, to such an extent as to render the subject the most painful of any which, in the survey of the condition of mankind, it is possible to contemplate. The preceding statement unavoidably suggests the inquiry, why the costly efforts in which Great Britain has so long been engaged for repressing the foreign slave-trade have proved thus ineffectual? Without pausing to enumerate the many concurrent causes of failure, it may be sufficient to state, that such is the difference

between the price at which a slave is bought on the coast of Africa and the price for which he is sold in Brazil or Cuba, that the importer receives back his purchase-money tenfold on the safe arrival of his vessel at the port of destination. We must add to this exciting motive the security which is derived from insurances and insurance companies, which are carried on to a great extent, and by combined powerful interests. Under such circumstances, to repress the foreign slave-trade by a marine guard would scarcely be possible, if the whole British navy could be employed for that purpose. It is an evil which can never be adequately encountered by any system of mere prohibition and penalties. Her Majesty's confidential advisers are, therefore, compelled to admit the conviction, that it is indispensable to enter upon some new preventive system." (Hear.) He admitted that this letter was drawn up with the object of impressing on the minds of the Lords of the Treasury the propriety of supporting the Niger expedition; but, as he was sure that the observations which it contained were written in a spirit of sincerity and truth, he had no hesitation in referring to them. But this was not all. In the following year, 1840, a great assemblage was held in Exeter Hall. His Royal Highness Prince Albert took the chair, and he was supported by the noble Lord at the head of the Government, by the right hon. baronet whom he (Mr. Hutt) saw opposite, by both of the members representing the University of Oxford, by a perfect constellation of Lords spiritual and temporal, and a host of well-dressed ladies and gentlemen. He (Mr. Hutt) had been accused of holding very strong language with regard to this well-dressed and well-conducted Parliament assembled in Exeter Hall, but he begged to call the attention of the House to the resolutions which were passed at that meeting. The first resolution was moved by Sir Fowell Buxton, and seconded by the present Archbishop of Canterbury, then Bishop of Chester, and was to the following effect:—"That, notwithstanding the measures hitherto adopted for the suppression of the foreign slave-trade, the traffic has increased, and continues to increase, under circumstances of aggravated horror." The second resolution was proposed by Mr. Lushington, and seconded by Archdeacon Wilberforce, now the Bishop of Oxford, and chairman of the Slave-trade Committee in the House of Lords. It was to the following effect:—"That the utter failure of every attempt, by treaty, remonstrance, or naval armament, to resist the progress of the slave-trade, proves the necessity of resorting to a preventive policy, and founded on different and higher considerations." Now, he had said nothing stronger than this. The report of the committee of the House of Commons, of which he had the honour to be chairman, brought forward no stronger statement than was contained in those resolutions, either with regard to the continued progress of the slave-trade, or the failure of the means used for its repression. What surprised him was, that persons should now stand forward to defend this system, who then stood forward as its accusers. He had arrived now at the year 1840. That year, as well as some subsequent years, was distinguished by a temporary, but remarkable diminution in the slave-trade, and there were some naval officers who were anxious to persuade the world that the diminution was caused by their presence on the coast of Africa. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh.) He was quite willing to believe that Captain Denman and Captain Matson were zealous and meritorious officers; but when they claimed to themselves the merit of greatly reducing the slave-trade, he believed they were suffering under the delusion of the parish sexton, to whose mind the pious and orderly conduct of the congregation was entirely explained by the manner in which he tolled the church-bell. It was perfectly true that Captain Denman was at his post, but there were other and more powerful agencies at work. (Hear, hear.) He saw in his place the right hon. Baronet, who was now the First Lord of the Admiralty, but who happened to be in 1840 the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He was sure the right hon. gentleman would remember, if every one else forgot, that the year 1840 was a period of great mercantile depression. Now a period of mercantile depression affected the slave-trade as much as it did any legitimate branch of commerce; but there were other concurrent causes for this diminution, of a very favourable character, which were in operation at that period. Both Cuba and Brazil were honestly engaged in an attempt to prevent the importation of slaves into those countries. Mr. Onseley, whose despatches from Brazil when he was our minister there had been laid on the table of the House, attributed the diminution in the slave-trade to the exertions made for its suppression by the Brazilian Government, and especially by, Senhor Cavalcala, then Minister of Marine. At the same time Cuba had the advantage of being governed by General Valdez; but, in 1843, he was recalled, and at the same period the anti-slavery ministry of Brazil was voted out of office. Commerce revived, and with the revival of commerce, notwithstanding the increased efficiency of our fleet, there came a revival of all the horrors of the slave-trade. In 1842 the number of slaves exported from Africa had sunk down as low as 30,000, but in 1843 the number rose to 55,000, in 1846 to 76,000, and in 1847 to 84,000; and, although no public means had been furnished for ascertaining what had been the increase during the past two years, yet, from all he had heard, he had every reason to believe that the slave-trade was now in a state of unusual activity. In a paper laid upon the table of the House towards the close of the last session, there was a statement made by a person well qualified to form a correct judgment which entirely sustained his (Mr. Hutt's) opinion on the subject. The paper to which he referred was called "Missions to the King of Ashantee and Dahomey;" and Mr. Cruikshank, writing from Whydah, on the coast of Africa, at the conclusion of the year 1848, stated in that paper—"It is a distressing truth, that our present blockade is no check whatever to the slave-trade; it is flourishing at this moment to such a degree, that the last accounts from Brazil report more than 8000 slaves in the market there without any purchaser; and not long ago, a cargo of slaves arrived at the same place, which found such a bad market that they were given up to pay freight. In presence of such facts as these, and the additional fact that, during the whole period that we have maintained cruisers on the coast, the slave-trade has gone on uninterrupted, we must be convinced of the futility of such a system. It appears to me to serve no other purpose than to increase the horrors of the traffic. In the first place, the certainty of losing a considerable proportion by capture increases the slave merchants' orders for supply to the slave-hunting African kings, and so renders more frequent and incessant their cruel forays, with their endless tale of miseries from the bloody battle-field, where they were taken prisoners, or from their smoking huts, where they were surprised in sleep, throughout their toilsome journey over the burning plains and through the swampy forests, until their arrival on the sea-shore. In the next place, the precautions necessary to avoid the cruisers oblige the slavers to cram these miserable objects into the stifling holds of small vessels, where it is well known thousands die from suffocation. In addition to this, I believe I may add, that it sometimes happens, that the slave merchant has been more fortunate than he calculated upon, and that more of his slaves have escaped capture than he expected; he does not, therefore, require the additional lot of slaves who have been hunted down for him; so they are left sometimes to starve in the hands of their captors, and sometimes are led forth to gratify them with their tortures. There can be no doubt but that much of this incredible suffering would be avoided if there were no cruisers; and truly, if we cannot alleviate the miseries of these wretches by our blockade, let us not add to their torments by our philanthropic but fruitless exertions." Such, then, was the end to which they had arrived, after a period of thirty years, in which they had been engaged in this work of suppression. But there was one feature in this history of suppression which was well worthy the attention of the House. Up to the year 1840 the slave-trade to the Brazils was perfectly free, and we could not molest persons engaged in the slave-trade with the Brazils. The noble Lord at the head of the Foreign Office stated before the committee of the House of Commons that up to the beginning of that year the importation of slaves into the Brazils was perfectly unrestricted. At the commencement of the year 1840 we acquired the right to suppress the slave-trade south of the line, as before we had possessed it at the north of the line, and we stationed our cruisers at the places in which they have since remained. What had been the result of this—not the temporary, but the permanent result? It was very true that our cruisers, in the first instance, going among the slave-traders before they had well learned the art of smuggling, captured a great many of them; but what was the condition of slavery south of the line? For several years past the trade had been going on with at least as great activity as ever. The fact was, that in the presence or absence of our squadron the importation of slaves into the Brazils was perfectly unrestricted. To use the words of the noble Lord at the head of the Foreign Office, "the utmost vigilance of our squadron has produced no change whatever in the extent of the trade." But, still further, it appeared that the importation of slaves into the Brazils had, during the last six or seven years, actually overtaken the demand, stimulated as that demand had been by the act of Parliament which admitted Brazilian sugar into the markets of this country. (Hear, hear.) Now this was a fact which could not be questioned or denied; it was fully established before a committee of the House of Commons, and confirmed by a statement of Lord Howden, and other witnesses, who appeared before the committee of the House of Lords. He placed it before the common-sense of the House, and would ask hon. members if it was possible to believe that our squadron could be worth what it cost us, or worth, in fact, a single straw? It made no difference in the actual amount of the slave-trade, whether employed or not; and notwithstanding the increased demand for the produce of slave labour, slaves were cheaper in the markets of Brazil than when the slave-trade was unrestricted. (Hear, hear.) There was another fact still, which was, that up to 1840 the slave-trade was perfectly free for a distance of at least 1000 miles south of the line. It might fairly be supposed, that as our squadron was suppressing the slave-trade north of the line, the slave-traders would have carried on their operations on that portion of the coast where they would be unopposed. But what was the fact? No such thing. They resorted in vast numbers in defiance of our squadron to the very ground which we had occupied by our cruisers. Gentlemen who had paid attention to the blue-books which had been laid upon the table of the House would remember that a large portion of the slave-trade to the Brazils was carried on in the very teeth of our squadron placed there. These were facts which could not be gainsayed nor denied. What were they to think of the preventive virtues of our squadron after this, and of the statement of the Bishop of Oxford, and other noble members of the committee of the House of Lords, who very gravely assured us that the slave-trade had been much reduced in amount and its probable increase prevented by our acts? Our acts! (A laugh.) He wished they would really soberly consider what it was that their efforts were directed. What was it we were really undertaking to do with our squadron? They were undertaking to suppress a contraband trade, which offered to those engaged in it larger gains than any other trade ever did in the world. It was of no use to say that it was an unholy or unchristian occupation. Undoubtedly it was so. But what they had to consider was, that this being a very lucrative trade, could it be suppressed by force of arms? There had not been an instance in the history of the world, often as it has been tried, in which a lucrative trade under such circumstances ever was suppressed. They all knew the history of the famous Berlin and Milan decrees, which were intended to prohibit through the ordinary channels the introduction of goods into foreign markets. It was well known how they forced their way, in defiance of the concentrated power of Napoleon, through the passes of Macedonia into almost every capital of Europe, and were finally laid down at the very door of the Tuileries. He remembered some years since seeing his honourable

friend near him (Mr. Hume) flourish a silk bandanna, the importation of which was prohibited, in the face of the then Chancellor of the Exchequer. (A laugh.) All, indeed, who would recollect the history of those silk duties, would come to the conclusion that this country never could have succeeded in an attempt to sustain an exclusive silk manufacture. There was also another signal instance of the failure of the Government to prevent trade of this kind in the instance of the tobacco duties. In this country, with every circumstance in its favour, with penal laws of daily and ready execution, with a set of preventive-service men covering both shore and sea, it was found impossible to put down a contraband traffic; yet still it was thought that it could be done on the coast of Africa, upon a quarter of the habitable globe where, in addition to other disadvantages, they had nearly the whole population within, and various nations of the world without, struggling against them. They needed not the experience of thirty years to teach them that, sooner or later, they must come to the same conclusion as that come to by a great English writer nearly two hundred years since—Sir Josiah Child—whose opinion had been confirmed by every great political writer of succeeding time, that “He who will give a high price for any commodity, shall obtain it by some means or other; of such force, fraud, and subtlety is the course of trade.” (Hear, hear.) It was a great consolation to him, who had undertaken the arduous duty of impeaching the present suppressive system, to find his opinions corroborated by evidence laid upon the table of the House, and to find the views which he had held and expressed for years in that House upon the subject so fully corroborated and adopted by those who, from their intimate knowledge of the country, or practical application to the subject, were best qualified to judge of their merits. He did not intend to trespass upon the indulgence of the House by any elaborate analysis of the evidence given before the committees of either House of Parliament, nor was it necessary that he should do so. The committees had examined a vast variety of witnesses, naval officers, travellers, merchants, missionaries, and other persons who had visited the country, and they elicited from them a great variety of conflicting and contradictory evidence. Many of these persons, the missionaries especially, had no more knowledge of the slave-trade than if they had never been in Africa; and although they generally expressed very strong opinions in favour of maintaining the squadron, and of the position and cost of that squadron they had, in their own persons, no knowledge at all. Of the witnesses, as a class, unquestionably the most important were the naval officers employed on the African stations. Of this class of witnesses not less than fourteen were examined before the committee, several of whom differed widely both upon matters of fact and opinion; and it was remarkable that while almost all the officers who had recently been in connexion with the operations of the squadron were utterly hopeless of ever suppressing the slave-trade by any naval force, the witnesses who had spoken most in favour of continuing the squadron were those who had not seen anything of the slave-trade, or of the operations of the squadron, for the last six or seven years. Captain Denman stated that he would put down the slave-trade in two years, by a plan of his own. Captain Rutherford also believed in the final extinction of the slave-trade by force within a limited time, although not so sanguine of success as Captain Denman on the subject. But neither of those gentlemen had been on the coast of Africa for the last seven or eight years. Since that time the slave-trade had gone on gradually improving its tactics, sharpening its evils, and increasing all those means of evasion which they had adopted with so much success. The question was not, he apprehended, whether the slave-trade could be put down by such plans as those laid before the committee by Captain Denman and others. The main question which concerned the House was whether the slave-trade could be so put down by force. Upon this point he found naval officers of at least equal spirit and judgment with Captain Denman, stating that no manner of management of the fleet, no cruising in-shore or off shore, no burning of baraboons, no right of seizure, no right of search, nor any plan whatever which rested upon the principle of force would ever succeed in putting down the slave-trade. Many of them went even further than this, and stated that one of the least means likely to be successful would be the adoption of Captain Denman's plan. He had already stated that the most valuable of the witnesses on this point were the naval officers, and he was certain that the feeling of the House would go with him when he stated that, of the naval officers, the most important witnesses would be the commanders-in-chief—those who had held command of the African squadron. Of such officers three only had been examined before the committee: of those three two were gentlemen who had held that important office lately—Captain Matson and Sir C. Hotham. Captain Matson was upon the coast of Africa for three years, and was an officer of great intelligence and of great practical distinction. What were the opinions of Capt. Matson on the subject? He was asked, “Whether, looking to the extent of that coast, and to the facilities which the coast affords for the shipment of slaves, do you imagine that it would be possible, by any means of naval force, to suppress the slave-trade, so long as there existed a high demand for slaves on the other side of the Atlantic?—I am perfectly convinced that it would be impossible. Are you acquainted with the particular plan for the suppression of the slave-trade which has been proposed and strongly recommended by Captain Denman?—I know the general outline of the plan. Have you read the sketch of it which he submitted to the Admiralty?—Yes. Do you think that the vigorous enforcement of that system would effectually extinguish the slave-trade?—I cannot think that it would. Do you think that it would to any important degree diminish it?—I do not think it would. Are you of opinion that, though by means of that system of blockade some stations might be effectually restrained in regard to the slave-trade, the slave-trade would shift its quarters, and break out elsewhere?—I entertain no doubt whatever of it.” At the end of 1846 Captain Matson was succeeded by Sir Charles Hotham. It was not for him to speak the praises of Sir Charles Hotham, but this he might venture to say, because he had it from the late lamented First Lord of the Admiralty, that Sir Charles Hotham was selected for that command, not on account of any personal or political interest, but entirely because he was, in the opinion of Lord Auckland, the fittest officer in the public service to undertake that delicate and important duty. Sir Charles Hotham, then, owed his appointment entirely to his personal ability. Did Captain Hotham, then, when in command of the squadron, display any deficiency of those great qualities which had procured for him this high appointment? During the sitting of the committee, he (Mr. Hutt) was anxious to inquire into the point, and examined Lord John Hay, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, a member of the committee, and one who voted against every one of the propositions submitted by him (Mr. Hutt) to the committee. He was asked—“As a naval officer and a Lord of the Admiralty, are you acquainted with the transactions of the African squadron while under the command of the late Commodore Sir Charles Hotham?—Yes. Were the operations of the fleet conducted on the part of that officer with zeal, intelligence, and skill?—I have heard the Board of Admiralty, both collectively and individually, give their opinion as to the manner in which they considered the services had been performed on the coast of Africa by Sir C. Hotham, and I cannot explain that better than by reading a letter which I have in my hand, which was the last communication made to Sir Charles Hotham on his striking his broad pennant at Spithead. From whom is the letter?—The letter is signed by the Secretary of the Admiralty, by the direction of the Board. Will you be so kind as to read it?” Admiralty, 12th April, 1849.—Sir, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, that your return to England affords their Lordships an opportunity they have much desired, of conveying to you the expression of their approval of the ability and energy with which you have conducted your late command; and it is with much satisfaction that my Lords attribute to your judgment and discretion your having successfully secured the co-operation of your foreign colleagues throughout your employment abroad. I am, sir, your most obedient servant, W. A. B. Hamilton.” He was then asked, “Do you think that if it had been possible to stop the slave-trade by such means as were confided to Sir Charles Hotham the slave-trade would have been stopped under his control?—I am decidedly of that opinion.” Captain Denman had stated in the early stage of the proceedings before the committee, that Sir C. Hotham was one of the most distinguished officers in the British navy, and a man that was always looked up to. Now, what were the opinions of this eminent and efficient public officer on this subject. Capt. Hotham was asked—“How long had you held the command of that African station?—From October, 1846, until March, 1849. What was the naval force usually under your orders?—It seldom averaged 22 ships of all kinds. How many of those were steamers?—It would be difficult to give an average of those—the number varied very much. What was the largest number of steam-vessels that you had under your orders at any time?—The largest number was seven. Was that force in a high state of discipline, generally speaking?—I thought so. Were your views carried out by the officers under your command to your entire satisfaction?—Entirely so. What was the result of your operations; did you succeed in stopping the slave-trade?—No. Did you cripple it to such an extent as, in your opinion, is calculated to give to the slave-trade a permanent check?—No. Do you consider that the slave-trade has been generally regulated by the strength and efficiency of the British squadron on the coast, or by the commercial demand for slaves?—I consider it is entirely dependent upon the commercial demand for slaves, and has little or no connexion with the squadron.” Such, then, was the opinion of gentlemen whom he could not but believe were as fully qualified to judge of the merits of the question as any living men. But if it should be considered that the evidence of the commodores on the African station should be insufficient, he would give the opinion of one who looked upon this question from an entirely different point of view, but whose opinions were deserving of the utmost consideration. He referred to the late Mr. Bandinell, of the Foreign-office. That gentleman had been for a period of thirty years at the head of that department of the Foreign-office charged with the suppression of the slave-trade, and he came before the committee an old man, with all that moderation and reserve which forty-five years of official life were well qualified to impart to a mind naturally judicious and discreet. (Hear, hear.) What was the opinion of this long-experienced and prudent public servant? He said—“The squadron has produced upon the slave-trade no effect at all. The squadron has not been able even to diminish the number of Africans which are demanded by the people of Brazil; they here may get as many as they want.” He could quote from the reports of the committee other valuable opinions, to show, in the words of Dr. Lushington, that “the squadron had not produced any effect either in suppressing the slave-trade or diminishing its extent.” He was content to rest his case, so far as depended upon the authority and weight of the evidence, upon Captain Matson, Sir Charles Hotham, and Mr. Bandinell. (Hear, hear.) He knew not where they were to look for guidance or counsel if a very considerable amount of deference was not given to authorities such as these. He most unhesitatingly declared that he should mistrust his own opinions on the subject, if he found them opposed to authorities such as those he had referred to. (Hear, hear.) He came now to another part of the subject. They would find as they proceeded, that, although the principle of force had a great many admirers, who still believed that they could suppress the slave-trade by force, there was no one who considered the present system as satisfactory. (Hear.) It was rather too much, that, after an experience of thirty years, after having spent £25,000,000 in the promotion of this system, they should all at once discover that the system was a bad one, and required immediate modifica-

tion. A paper had been placed in his hand that morning, with a notice that an amendment would be moved to his motion, and he found that the hon. member for Derbyshire (Mr. Evans) was among the class who, though he was strongly in favour of maintaining the principle of force, still thought that the manner in which we now apply that principle was one that could not be sustained. That hon. member had, therefore, brought forward another plan, a counter-project, in which he (Mr. Hutt) saw a great deal that was obscure, much that was mischievous, and not a small portion wholly unintelligible. (“Hear, hear,” and a laugh.) It was quite clear, however, that he thought the present plan was one which required alteration. But although his hon. friend (Mr. Evans) did not express himself in plain language, there were others who did so. One naval captain told them “that they might put down the slave-trade if we would but triple our force on the coast of Africa.” Another stated that “he could manage it with forty ships, chiefly steam-boats;” but he also said, “you must make treaties with the African chiefs along the coast, and pay handsome subsidies to them.” Another very respectable gentleman also thought that “if we placed the squadron in a greater state of efficiency, punish all concerned in the slave-trade, establish trading posts all along the whole of both sides of the continent of Africa, and change the disposition of the native chiefs—(a laugh)—we might be able to put down the slave-trade.” But, lastly, there was a report of the committee of the House of Lords, in which they were told that a little alteration in the management and equipment of our fleets (the Bishops had surveyed the coast, and convicted Sir C. Hotham of utter incapacity, and thought they could manage it better themselves), a little alteration in the management of the squadron, with little or no additional expense, and the thing was done. Many people were in the habit of talking in this way, of augmenting the squadron, and tripling the cruisers at little or no additional expense, as if the British Government, regardless of the effects upon its subjects at home, had nothing else to do than to try rash experiments in putting down the slave-trade. What was the present number of vessels employed by this country in putting down the slave-trade? Excluding packet and surveying vessels, there was not less than one-fourth of the whole British navy afloat. There were twenty-six vessels stationed upon the western coast of Africa, to which might be added three on the Cape station, three on the eastern coast of South America, and several on the West India station, making in all between thirty-nine and forty vessels; and yet this force was, in the opinion of naval officers, wholly inadequate for the purpose. We are now going on, at an expenditure of £700,000 per annum, in the prosecution of this system, and that expenditure was palpably too small in the opinion of those who advocated suppression by force, many of whom were dreaming of nothing so much as how they could augment the expenses. He knew it was considered as rather wanting in good breeding to be talking about expenses in connexion with this subject—(a laugh)—and that it implied rather a deficiency of good manners to speak of expense in connexion with the squadron. He did not know how it was, but it appeared to be clear that the drafts upon the public treasury for the maintenance of this principle of force were such as they must never name in that house. (Hear, hear.) He should be prepared to bear the mighty sarcasm of the noble Lord at the head of the Foreign Office, upon this as upon former occasions, for presuming to mention that the slave-trade suppression cost the country £700,000 per annum. The noble Lord told him (Mr. Hutt), in a former debate, that a person could not think very deeply on the subject who complained of expense. According, however, to the natural powers of his mind, he was led to the opinion that extravagant expenditure in this country was a great evil. (Hear, hear.) He entertained a firm conviction that if it should be the destiny of this country, the greatest and the most civilised that ever existed, ever to suffer from some revolutionary violence, it would not be brought about by means very often appealed to—not by a great conflict of parties, by the corrupting influence of the Crown, nor by democratic usurpation—but by the confusion of its finances—(hear, hear)—by that disregard of the national expenditure which, in some evil hour, would rend to its very foundation the fabric of public credit. (Hear, hear.) He hoped the noble Lord would excuse him for presuming to think that in the present state of the national finances the country ought not to be subjected to the burden of £700,000 a year to maintain an abortive system. (Hear.) The amendment which was to be proposed, whilst it urged the propriety of maintaining the efficiency of the squadron, did at the same time say something about relieving the public from expense. Now, he would be very glad to hear from his hon. friend some explanation of the mode in which the squadron was to be maintained in increased efficiency, whilst at the same time the country was to be gratified by being called upon to pay considerably less for its support. It was not, however, solely on the ground of expense that he objected to the system. He objected to it on account of its futility. He objected to it on account of its cruelty. He objected to it because he disliked to see a great and noble country engaged in a conflict carried on by means so violent and at the same time so utterly inadequate to the end proposed, as to cut us off from the co-operation and sympathy of other states. He objected to it on account of the bad terms on which it placed the people of Brazil and the people of this country. And, finally, he objected to it on account of the angry feeling and menacing quarrels in which it frequently involved us with France and America—quarrels which, he feared, would soon again be revived. (Cheers.) In his opinion it was a sinister and ridiculous philanthropy which, for the sake of an abortive system directed to the suppression of the slave-trade, would incur the risk of involving this country in the guilt and horrors of war. (Hear, hear.) It was said that some plan—whence it was to proceed, or what was its outline, he knew not—was to be proposed for bringing this unfortunate business to a satisfactory conclusion. During the last twenty years this had uniformly been the story of those who were anxious to keep up the system. He had heard it so often, that he no longer gave it any belief. When he first entered the House, eighteen years ago, it was stated, in a discussion which took place on the estimates, that, if the Government could only succeed in some negotiations which were then going on, the question would be settled at once. Subsequently the House was told that the equipment clause would settle the business. In the next place, it was to be done by instituting a stricter blockade on the coast of Africa. Then all hopes rested upon the operation of the combined fleets of England and France; and, finally, the suppressionists looked for the attainment of their object to a most anomalous proceeding, by which the slave-traders of Brazil were made responsible to the municipal laws of England. In short, it was evident that we had been for years following an *ignis fatuus*, and now an attempt was to be made to take them in again with the old exploded story—

‘Tis all a cheat,
Yet, fool'd by hope, men favour the deceit,
Trust on and think to-morrow will repay,—
To-morrow's falser than the former day,
Lies more—

(Cheers.) He had now done. He thought he had made out his case—(hear)—and he appealed to the members of that House, as guardians of the interests and prosperity of the country, as protectors of its honour and fame, as humane and Christian men, to pass condemnation on a cruel and delusive system, whose final doom was not distant, by supporting the motion with which he would conclude, namely, “that an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that her Majesty will be pleased to direct that negotiations be forthwith entered into for the purpose of releasing this country from all treaty engagements with foreign states for maintaining armed vessels on the coast of Africa to suppress the traffic in slaves.” (Cheers.)

Mr. H. BAILLIE seconded the motion. He called on the Government to adopt an honest, straightforward policy, and not, on the one hand, to maintain an expensive force for the professed purpose of putting down the slave-trade, while, on the other hand, we passed laws that gave a direct encouragement to the employment of slave labour. Those connected with the West India colonies were of opinion that this motion ought to be negative, because they wished the price of slaves in Cuba and Brazil to be increased, and, consequently, the value of slave labour enhanced, by the impediments thrown in the way of transport by our cruisers. But he advised the Government to be influenced by no such consideration, to decide the question on its merits, and to give up attempts that experience had proved to be futile.

Mr. W. EVANS, who had placed an amendment on the notice paper, withdrew his amendment, but he opposed the motion, and implored the Government and the House to reject it.

Mr. LABOUCHERE addressed the House under feelings of deep anxiety, because he believed that in its decision were involved the most sacred interests of humanity and the character and honour of the country. The proposal made to the House was openly and unequivocally to withdraw at once, and without any substitute, our squadron from the coast of Africa, thus announcing to the world that henceforth this execrable traffic shall be free. To that proposal he felt fully persuaded the people of England would not agree; and that, should the House adopt it, they would not fail to be called to account for so degenerate and retrograde a course. The hon. member had rested his case on the evidence given by Sir C. Hotham; but that officer, in his evidence, depicted the horrors that would inevitably take place should our naval force be suddenly withdrawn; and he (Mr. Labouchere) was quite content to rest his objection to the motion on Sir C. Hotham's testimony. The hon. member had also fortified his proposal by citing the reports of the two committees of which he was chairman; but it should be remembered that the hon. member had given the casting vote on all the material points in the reports; and it should also be remembered that the committee of the House of Lords made a report of a directly opposite kind. The right hon. gentleman proceeded to establish that, though our squadron was not of itself sufficient to wholly suppress the slave-trade, it had done much to check and keep down the traffic. He trusted that, what with the establishment of the free colony of Liberia, with the newly-purchased Danish fortress, and with the continued exertions of our cruisers, 1500 miles length of the African coast would be soon freed from the abominations of the slave traffic, and a legitimate trade substituted for it. The effect the withdrawal of our cruisers would have on our West India colonies would be most disastrous. Those colonies were just recovering from a state of unexampled depression; but were their struggles interrupted by such a measure as that proposed, the well-founded hope of their return to prosperity would be at once extinguished. The right hon. gentleman emphatically implored the House to reject the motion. He did not ask them to affirm that the squadron should be maintained permanently. Should any one suggest a better mode of suppressing the slave-trade, the Government were willing to consider it without prejudice. If ever there was a policy that was not the policy of a party, or of this or that Administration, but was the policy of the people of England, this was that particular policy.

Mr. G. BENCKLEY supported the motion. He contended that the slave-trade was now more vigorous than ever; that it was carried on with greater cruelty to the negroes; and that the increased price of the slaves in Cuba and Brazil was caused not so much by the exertions of our squadron, as by the enhanced price of slave produce caused by our admission of Brazilian and Cuban sugar.

Sir G. PEACHELL did not believe that the people of this country were prepared for any such measure of economy as that proposed, and therefore he should give it his decided opposition. The hon. and gallant member urged on the Admiralty the necessity of sending better and more efficient vessels to the coast of Africa,

and on the Government the advantage of making treaties with the native African chiefs.

Mr. ANSTERY warmly supported the motion. He condemned as ludicrous and hypocritical the plan of maintaining a squadron at a cost of a million a year to put down the slave-trade, whilst we admitted slave-produced sugar without scruple. Unless the House was prepared to re-impose the prohibitory duties on slave-grown sugar, he called on them to withdraw the cruisers from the coast of Africa.

Sir R. INGLIS was quite prepared to re-impose the prohibition on Brazilian and Cuban sugar, and deeply regretted that the First Minister had ever tarnished the reputation of the anti-slavery party by admitting slave produce to competition with the produce of our free colonies. The hon. baronet drew attention to the different estimates of the expense of the much-decried squadron on the African coast. Last year Mr. Hutt had computed the annual expense at £500,000; this year he magnified the cost of his men in buckram at £700,000; Mr. Anstey increased it still further to £1,000,000; but the returns of the Admiralty showed the actual expense to be £301,623.

Lord H. VANE felt himself reluctantly compelled to vote for the motion, because he was convinced that it would be impossible to continue the efforts that we had made, and that experience proved to have been unsuccessful.

Mr. CARDWELL confidently hoped that the House would not consent to undo all that had been done. He implored them to consider what would be the effects to the African race of the deprivation of the civilising influence of legitimate trade and of the Christian faith. The hon. member showed, by citation from the evidence given before the committees, that our squadron had operated efficiently in checking the slave-trade, and mitigating the inhumanity of that traffic. As the representative of Liverpool, which carried on almost all the legitimate commerce with the west coast of Africa, he asked those hon. members who were about to support the motion on the ground of economy, in what condition did they intend to leave the coast of Africa? Withdraw the squadron, and piracy and rapine would reign unchecked from one end of Africa to the other. He, for one, could not undertake the responsibility of paralysing the hands of the Government, or of surrendering the policy which we were pledged in honour and conscience to adhere to.

Captain D. PELHAM and Colonel THOMPSON opposed the motion.

Mr. GLADSTONE: I hardly know whether it is for the convenience of the House—which I wish entirely and exclusively to consult—that I should proceed to address it this night. (Hear, hear.) I had believed that there was a general expectation of an adjourned debate; and, in that case, if it would be more for the convenience of the House, I would postpone my address; but I would be reluctant that this question should go to a division, and that I should vote as I intend to vote, in favour of the motion of my hon. friend—(loud cries of “Hear, hear, hear!”)—without having taken an opportunity of stating to the House, as briefly as I am able, some of the grounds on which I would give that vote. (Hear, hear.) I do not disguise from myself the serious nature of that vote, or endeavour in any manner, or in any degree, to blink the magnitude of the question. (Hear, hear.) I will not dwell pointedly upon the objection that this is not a motion for the withdrawal of the squadron, but a motion for the removal of a preliminary bar to discussion, because it is said to be clear that the discretion of the House is not free, and we are met with an objection arising from our engagements to foreign countries unless we endeavour to remove those engagements. (Hear, hear.) My object, in the first place, then, is to vindicate for Parliament the right of entering into the discussion of this question. (Hear, hear.) Nothing can be more absurd than the present state of our treaty engagements with regard to the maintenance of cruisers on the coast of Africa. (Hear, hear.) I think this motion only contemplates the treaty with France; the treaty with America requires no negotiation, for either party can terminate it by the expression of a wish; but in the treaty with France, we bound ourselves to France, and France bound herself to us, each to maintain twenty-six cruisers on the coast of Africa, to suppress the slave-trade, by whomsoever carried on. After the lapse of some time, France changed her mind—she did not possess the power, or seek to possess the power, that would enable her to do what she wished; namely, to exercise jurisdiction over other than her own subjects—and she applied to her Majesty's Government (and her Majesty's Government wisely acceded to the application) to be released from her engagements, and instead of keeping twenty-six vessels on the African coast to suppress the slave-trade generally, to be allowed to keep only a small squadron, consisting of twelve vessels, on that coast, to exclude her own subjects from the trade, so at present France is only bound to exclude her own subjects from the slave-trade, and are we, by treaty, forsooth, to be bound to France to maintain a large fleet on the coast of Africa for the purpose of suppressing the slave-trade? (Hear, hear.) I say that is a state of things so anomalous and so preposterous, that on its own merits my hon. friend was justified in the motion which he has made. If I have come to the determination of voting with him upon this occasion, it is after a long and painful investigation, which I began with an unbiased and dispassionate mind. I can assure the House that the feelings with which I entered upon the inquiry were not in accordance with the conclusion at which I have arrived; and those who know me are aware that every prepossession and every impulse I was required to struggle with and overcome before I could bring myself to that conclusion; but I thought the time was come when it was necessary to rouse the moral courage of the country to look this great question fairly in the face. (Cheers.) It is not because I think lightly of the slave-trade, or because I prefer considerations of economy to considerations of humanity, that I vote for this motion; and, indeed, with regard to the slave-trade, I can find no words sufficiently strong to characterize its enormous iniquity. I believe the slave-trade to be by far the foulest crime that taints the history of mankind in any Christian or pagan country; and, therefore, it is not from any light estimate of the atrocities of the trade that I have made up my mind to vote for the motion of my hon. friend. The system which we are now acting upon has been condemned by an accumulation of authorities as great as ever was brought to bear on a point of practical policy (Hear, hear); and the authorities who have so condemned it are persons who had every prepossession in its favour—who, as long as it stood in the position of an experiment, adhered to it with tenacious fidelity, and would have adhered to it so long as a hope remained of its proving effectual, but who, when undeceived by the stern lessons of experience, have left us the expression of their honest convictions. In the year 1840, Sir F. Buxton said that a system of armed repression was perfectly futile, and that not only was this the case, but that if you could enter into treaty stipulations with all the nations of the world, still cent. per cent., as his expression was, the enormous profits of the slave-trade would be too strong for you. (Hear, hear.) The system has been condemned by the noble Lord at the head of the Government, who, adopting the language of Sir F. Buxton, gave the world to understand that the only means of effectually extinguishing the slave-trade lay in the cultivation and the civilization of Africa. It has been condemned by those, among whom I was one, who promoted that honestly-intended, but disastrous scheme for despatching an expedition up the Niger. It has been condemned by the Anti-Slavery Society (Hear, hear), who, it must be admitted, whatever differences of opinion may prevail on other points, have laboured with unwearied zeal for the promotion of the great cause of philanthropy by elevating the social condition of the children of Africa. We are told that the extension of legitimate commerce requires the maintenance of this system; but I want to know whether the merchants of this country have desired it? It appears to me that they are as much divided in opinion on this subject as other men are, and that if there is any decided prevalence of opinion, it is either that of aversion or of indifference to the question. Then, as to the naval profession, I am not disposed to differ from the opinion of my honourable friend, when he refers to the opinion of Sir Charles Hotham; but there is no doubt that the opinion of the naval profession generally is unfavourable to the continuance of the existing system. This stands on record, that the most responsible witnesses and the most recent witnesses have condemned it. (Hear, hear.) It is quite true that Sir Charles Hotham does not recommend the unconditional withdrawal of the squadron, and that he expresses an opinion that if that were done the small speculators in slaves would increase; but he expresses that opinion with the modesty which belongs to his character, and observes, “My opinion on that subject is only a speculative opinion.” Let not the House suppose that because Sir Charles Hotham does not recommend the unconditional withdrawal of the squadron, he is not convinced of its inability to put down the slave-trade. He tells you that it is impossible to put it down—that no force which you can place in his hands will enable him to repress it; and his substitute for an armed force is, that you must have a treaty with Brazil, permitting a modified and limited importation of slaves into that country. Is there any doubt about Sir Charles Hotham's opinion on the subject? I ask my hon. friend how Sir Charles Hotham would vote, if he were here to-night (cheers)? Why, he would be one of the most zealous, as well as one of the most able, of the supporters of the motion (renewed cheering). I am reluctant to weary the House with extracts from his evidence, but I say that he inculcates absolutely and positively the removal of the squadron, though he says that you must grant to Brazil a modified licence for the importation of slaves. The right hon. gentleman the President of the Board of Trade has made a speech to-night, in which he has referred to those motives which produced a fixed disposition in the mind of man, to induce us to follow up the policy in which we have so long embarked; but when I find him making use of these general considerations, I cannot but observe, that this is a speech which may be made every year for generations to come, as it might have been made in any year for generations past (laughter). I must beg to qualify that remark, as it is but one generation since we began our present system of policy; but as the right hon. gentleman's speech might have been made in any year during the past decade, so it may be made any year in the next. That is the question to which I wish the House to address its mind. Are we to adopt this system as a permanent system, and make it one of the institutions of the country (Hear, hear)? Are we to go on with such success or failure as it may entail upon us, or are we to look the question fairly in the face, and determine what is to be done? I must say that the committee did not deserve to be taunted on account of the time at which this motion is brought forward. They felt the inconvenience which the publication of their report would occasion to the executive Government; and so strongly was this feeling entertained, that in June, 1848, when the report could have been carried by a considerable majority, and when they learned, on what they believed to be the best authority, that if the report were not presented that year, the interval that might elapse might be turned to the best account by treaties with other powers for the suppression of the slave-trade, they abstained from presenting it. That was in the summer of 1848, and we are now in the spring of 1850; yet what progress has been made? The right honourable gentleman tells us of the purchase of forts; but what are we to do with forts, when there are 4000 miles of coast? The right honourable gentleman says that 1500 miles of coast are not exactly clear at present, but that they will be clear; but even if that should turn out to be correct, what then? Admiral Hotham says that the

moment you stop the slave-trade at one place it breaks out at another; and it must be remembered that there are 4000 miles of coast from Morocco to the Orange River. The right hon. gentleman speaks of the influence of Liberia, and a very salutary influence it exercises; but my hon. friend does not mean to say that the Government should maintain an indifference on the subject of the slave-trade. On the contrary, wherever a Government was found inimical to that traffic, whether that of Liberia on the west coast of Africa, or the Portuguese settlements on the east coast, we ought to aid that Government, and not shrink from any sacrifice to give them effectual assistance. It is not the amount of the sacrifice which the maintenance of the squadron involves that I so much object to, as to its uselessness, and the mischief which its presence on the coast gives rise. What has the squadron done? Has it extinguished the slave-trade? No. Is it making any progress towards the extinction of the trade? I want to call the attention of the House to that point. My hon. friend, in the course of the able speech which he made, referred to the capture of twenty vessels at Amboise, made by Admiral Hotham; but Sir Charles Hotham says that that was an accident, and that he took them by surprise, getting there six months before he was expected. No doubt there had been an abundance of gallant transactions, but the question is whether, on the whole, we are making progress, and what progress we are making; because, if I could see a *bond fide* progress made, I should be willing to go on, in the hope of attaining a good so incalculably great as the repression of the slave-trade. But, as far as I can see at present, your squadron imposes a tax of 10 or 15 per cent on the slave-trade, and that is the very outside. You have already inflicted some loss upon the dealers, and have given the traffic a character partaking more of hazard and adventure than it before possessed; but does this squadron govern the price in Brazil? (Hear, hear.) Does the price in Brazil vary with the efficiency of the squadron? Is that the case or not? In 1828, according to the purchases entered in the book of an estate there, the price of a slave varied from 300 to 350 milreis. In 1844 the price varied from 700 to 800 milreis, and I ask you whether the squadron has been more or less effective since? Why, we all know that it has been much more effective—the force has been greatly augmented, and placed under the command of a man almost unequalled for the performance of such a duty, and yet what has been the price since? In 1848, in the face of this squadron, which governs the price in Brazil, the price has been reduced by the redundancy of the supply to from 300 to 350 milreis. I observe that this is an assumed estimate, and, therefore, that I may be quite accurate, I will take the price in 1847 when it was from 400 to 450 milreis. There is no reason for doubting the accuracy of the returns made by the Foreign-office as to the number of captures effected. Since 1840—and in taking 1840 I take it because it is the period since which the squadron is said, on the whole, to have been in a state of efficiency, and consequently of increasing effect—in 1840, our captures were 6 per cent.; in 1841, 13 per cent.; in 1842, 13 per cent.; in 1843, 5 per cent.; in 1844, 9 per cent.; in 1845, 10 per cent.; in 1846, 4 per cent.; in 1847, according to accounts 4½ per cent., and according to the most recent account, 8 per cent. Therefore taking these figures as a whole there is no progress, but there is rather retrogression on the rival ground occupied by the squadron, and the slave-traders respectively; and while you are improving at a vast cost the organization of your squadron, the slave-traders have been gaining upon you by improving still more rapidly the organization of their system; and it appears that a larger proportion of them during the last three years, during the very best period of your squadron, have escaped through your hands than during the years that preceded that period. Now, sir, with respect to the admission that I have made, that the squadron imposes a tax on the slave-trade, I contend that it was not for the purpose of imposing such a tax that these great and extraordinary efforts were originally undertaken. I don't stand here to impeach the policy of those who thought that, in consideration of the extraordinary iniquity and the extraordinary miseries of the slave-trade, it was right for us to step out of the common course, and to make such great efforts some thirty years ago for its suppression. I believe that that was an experiment well worth trying; but, in my view it is necessarily an experiment bounded and limited in time. It is not an ordinance of Providence that the government of one nation shall correct the morals of another (hear, hear.) I say that for a time, and for a great occasion, it may be right to depart even from that most salutary rule; but I say, that for a long course of years, and especially for that which I think is now before us, namely, an indefinite continuance of the present system if the house rejects the present motion; or, at any rate, if the opinion of the house is decisively declared against it—I say it is not right to depart from that rule or you involve yourselves in all sorts of difficulties, and find in the first place that the opinion of your sincerity is destroyed, that you are in constant risk of collision with foreign nations; and that from whatever cause or combination of causes, you cannot gain your object. It was to extinguish this traffic that these great efforts were undertaken. If you have a rational hope of extinguishing it, then persevere; but if you have none, then begin to think of some other means better adapted to your object. Sir, has there been any cause of a circumstantial nature to which you can point as being fairly chargeable with your failure? Has the squadron been inefficient? Has the Government been inactive? Has the noble lord been sluggish on this subject? For fifteen years nearly out of the last twenty years he has been Secretary of State, and I am glad of it with respect to its bearing on this question; because all the world I think pays, as I believe is justly due, honour to the noble lord for the zeal and energy with which he laboured in the department of his office for the suppression of the slave-trade (hear, hear.) We never can stand better, I think, so far as direct negotiation is concerned, than with the noble lord in respect to this subject. And he has not been inactive; he has always been looking forward to something which he hoped might attain an end. In 1835 he had a distant hope of a treaty with Spain; in 1839 he fixed his hope on the equipment clause; in 1840 he fixed it on the great advantage to be obtained by being enabled to pursue the slaver on the south as well as on the north side of the Equator; and in 1840 there was also hope from the Niger expedition; then there were the treaties with France and America, and the hope of a union between the three greatest maritime powers of the world, in pursuit of this object. Well, these points have been nominally gained, and now where are we? We have not advanced, but we have positively fallen back in respect to the attainment of our object. Nor has the right honourable gentleman—I must do him the justice to say—nor has the right honourable gentleman at all held out to us a promise that if we give a further lease of the system of repression by force we shall see some new development of diplomatic means, and a new position of affairs assumed as the consequence. He speaks, indeed, of the multiplication of treaties with the chiefs of Africa, which may be all very well in its way, meaning nothing more nor less than pensions to the African chiefs, to stand in the stead of the profits they receive from the gains of the slavers. This may be all very well as a secondary means, but it is not by means of that trivial minuteness that you can hope to overcome this gigantic and extraordinary evil. (Hear, hear.) But now, sir, though I certainly look at the pecuniary burden which this system entails upon the people of England as a very serious one—for I believe that not even the £700,000 to meet the charge is really all that is entailed on the country, although it may be something like the limit of the direct charges that are placed on the item which you can visibly connect with it—(Hear, hear.)—yet I say that is not my main motive—I am not governed in the main by a desire to get rid of this charge. I want to grapple with this question fairly, as a question of humanity and of philanthropy. (Hear, hear.) And I say, admitting that every man's conclusion on such a subject ought to be under certain reserves, yet I declare it is the best judgment that I can arrive at on the question, after endeavouring to become acquainted with the facts, that the continuance of the present system of repression does not diminish, but, on the contrary, has a tendency to increase the sum of human wretchedness. (Hear, hear.) Now, sir, that is the ground on which I challenge the judgment of this House. It seems to me that the evidence goes to that extent; and, if this be so, I trust it is to that point that the arguments of our opponents will be directed, because it has often happened that the misery of man has been increased by persons who thought that they were promoting his happiness. And we must not allow any of these topics which address themselves to the imagination—we must not allow any indisposition to a change of policy, or any respect for the motives of those who have gone before us, to prevent us from adjusting our course to the circumstances of the times, if we perceive that these circumstances have undergone an essential change. Now, how are we to come at this question, whether the squadron does or does not increase the sum of human suffering? On what evidence are we to go? We must content ourselves necessarily with indirect evidence. But I observe that this direct evidence all goes to this point—that the sufferings arising from the traffic at the present moment are far greater than they were wont to be in earlier times. I am sorry that I have not at hand the work of Sir Thomas Buxton, but it will be recollected that after a careful detail of the horrors and miseries of the slave-trade as it was in the period before the act of Sir W. Dolben, uses some expressions to this effect, that dreadful as these sufferings are, they are trivial compared with what are now undergone. And I hope my hon. friend will, therefore, see that it is on an authority somewhat high, and I think perfectly dispassionate, that this assertion is propounded in this House. But, sir, if I go to figures, by what figures are we to form our judgment? We are told that the calculations of mortality are very imperfect; but at the same time, though they may be imperfect, yet, if these are the calculations of the most competent judges, and if they are so decisive in their character as to leave an ample range for accidental errors, and still the substance of the conclusions shall be untouched, I say that we ought not to reject these calculations. (Hear, hear.) Now, what was the state of mortality during the period of the regulation of the British slave-trade? During that period it was stated in this House by Mr. Jenkinson that the mortality in English vessels in the middle passage was reduced to 3 per cent. Mr. Wilberforce placed it at 10 per cent. The mortality in Dutch vessels was 5 to 7 per cent. according to Mr. Jenkinson, and in French vessels 10 per cent.; but still it was perfectly plain that 10 per cent. was the maximum of this variety of estimate of the mortality. That was under the regulation act of Sir William Dolben. And what are the estimates now? Mr. Bandinell makes an estimate of 24 per cent. You tell us that this is on very imperfect data; but it is the evidence which an intelligent man, after thirty years' experience, with a more comprehensive knowledge than any other individual, finds best for yielding on the whole a just conclusion. But is Mr. Bandinell's estimate entirely beyond the margin of the others? If you go to them, I understood it to be said, his estimates will not stand under you. But, I ask, what is the estimate of Sir Thomas Buxton? It is that the mortality of the middle passage for a course of ten years previous to the time when he wrote, namely, 1840; it cannot be taken at less than 33 per cent. (Hear, hear.) Why, sir, if we look again at the evidence of fact, which, though it may not go so directly to the point, yet it is in itself more capable of being correctly tested—suppose you take the crowding of the slaves in the ships—I think, on the whole, that that is not a very unfair test to refer to with respect to the sufferings and the mortality. I find in the report of the committee of the House of Lords Mr. Stokes's evidence, who says he shall show, as he was invited to do, that the crowding before the slave-trade was regulated, sixty years ago, in the slave ships was greater, or at all events quite as great, as it is now. And what does he do? He quotes certain cases, and I find in all that he quotes the proportion of slaves

carried to the tonnage of the vessels is between five slaves to three tons, and three slaves to two tons. There is no very great variation between these proportions. Now, there are other facts. When Sir William Dolben's act was introduced, all that the slave-traders asked that they might be permitted to carry was two slaves for every ton. This was the maximum to which they aspired—the extreme case which they then contemplated. Well, how does this matter stand now? Look to the returns in the books for 1847 and 1848. I have taken pains carefully to examine them. I find that the average number of slaves, instead of being three slaves to two tons, is very nearly eight slaves to two tons. (Hear, hear.) And I find, instead of two slaves, or three, to one ton being an extremely exceptional case, nine slaves, and ten, to one ton are instances that not unfrequently present themselves. Then I say, with such a state of crowding, that such a change in the number of slaves carried according to the tonnage, must greatly increase the mortality; and let it always be recollected, that while I speak of the mortality of sixty years ago, I speak of the mortality on a passage of more than fifty days; and when I speak of the mortality now, I speak of the mortality compressed within little more than half that space, because I believe it is not far from the mark to say that ships now perform the voyage in from twenty-five to thirty days, being only a moiety of what the length of the voyage used to be. But if there is a great increase of mortality, if I say the increase is ten per cent., I do not think that that is an immoderate estimate, considering the figures I have already quoted. And if there has been this increase of ten per cent. in the mortality, I ask what does that mean, and what does that come to? Why, it means this, that this increase of mortality absorbs every year the lives of between 8000 and 9000 slaves in the middle passage; and that number is much larger than the number to which in any year you have given liberty, by the united efforts of all your cruisers. (Hear, hear.) And, if you only, by all your labours, liberate 5000 or 6000 slaves, you will cause the additional deaths of 8000 or 9000, and aggravate the sufferings of the rest. I ask, then, if I am not right in stating it as a most probable opinion, that the mass of human sufferings, as far as relates to those who are carried across the ocean, is increased by the repressive system which you are now pursuing. Well, sir, of course we shall be asked what other course you propose—what else can be done? For my part, I somehow feel the difficulty of that question, that if any rational course can be pointed out which would afford us the hope of success in our present pursuit, as I have already said, I should be perfectly ready to embrace it. But, in my opinion, we have come to the time when we ought sincerely and deliberately to ask ourselves what are the conditions necessary to give us a reasonable chance of success in the system of force and repression? I don't deny that there are imaginable and conceivable conditions which might enable you to struggle even against the slave-trade; but I do not think there are any imaginable conditions which give you anything like a certainty of putting it down. The attempt might be made to put it down as if it were piracy; but the noble Lord somewhere remarks in his evidence, that although it is morally a far greater crime than piracy, yet by the law of nations it is not regarded as so great a crime; and it differs from piracy in this, that hideous as is its moral character, yet it has, if you look to its exterior merely, all the conditions of a great branch of commerce (Hear, hear, hear.) I believe that it is impossible to put down a great branch of commerce such as this by the exercise of mere force, having in my mind, as I have, the remarkable saying of Sir J. Child. But, if we really wish effectually to put down the slave-trade, what would be the proper course to adopt? The first and most essential of all to be done is to induce a general belief among other nations of the world of our sincerity of purpose. I do not believe that there is that general impression among other nations of the earth. I am certain that that was that impression among the nations of the world, there would be more of real co-operation among the Governments. It is very well for my honourable friend to point to some officers of the American and French squadrons who, animated by the generous spirit of the profession, sympathize with the exertions of our gallant men, and wish them hearty success. But if that is the spirit of the officers, do they represent the Governments of their respective countries. Hon. members who had read the blue books now before the House would not fail to perceive, in Sir C. Hotham's evidence, where that officer is asked his opinions respecting the American squadron, that there was one American officer who did venture to detain a vessel carrying the American flag; and what was the consequence? Not only did the captain meet with the disapprobation of the Government, but he was brought into a court of justice, and so mulcted on account of his conduct, that no one has since been found to copy his example. (Hear, hear.) It is impossible not to feel the disadvantage under which we are placed as to the imputation of sinister motives with other countries. One-half of the speech of the right hon. gentleman the President of the Board of Trade consisted of appeals to motives of humanity and philanthropy; the other half, of a description of the great detriment which our West Indian colonies would undergo if we acceded to this motion. No doubt these notions were all conceived and converged in the mind of the right hon. gentleman, but we know that with the introduction of the subject of our colonial interest in a debate upon the repression of this trade, it would be very difficult to persuade foreign nations that the colonial motive was not the real one, and that the other was introduced merely by way of surplussage or ornament. (Hear, hear.) If you wish to maintain that character for perfect sincerity, and sought to propagate among other nations a belief that you intended the repression of the slave-trade, and would not allow any other consideration to interfere with it, you should not have passed the Sugar Duties Bill. (Cheers.) It is perfectly intelligible, the hon. gentleman might say, that motives of convenience and policy, and I know not what other reasons, were sufficient to induce them to pass that act. I do not enter into that discussion now, but I say, having passed that act, I defy you to establish your reputation for sincerity among the nations of the earth. (Hear, hear.) If you want to suppress slavery not by force, the first thing you ought to do would be to repeal that act (cheers), in order not only to beget that good opinion in other countries, but because that act was the most powerful instrument of repression which you had in this country. (Hear, hear.) What is the next thing to be done? At least to double or treble the present squadron. Instead of forty or fifty, you would require between eighty and one hundred vessels at least. An hon. and gallant member opposite appears to doubt that. It is the opinion, however, of many naval officers, and the opinion also of Captain Hotham, who stated, in addition to that, that he believed that no increase of our naval force would enable us to succeed in it. If hon. members would read the evidence, they would see that what he had stated was correct. I am now speaking, of course, of sailing vessels. A sailing vessel, it appears, cannot watch more than about 30 miles; if, then, you have some 2200 or 2500 miles to watch—if the hon. and gallant member, who, I perceive, still expresses his dissent, will perform, that little sum, he will see that what I have stated is correct ("Hear, hear," and a laugh). What is the next thing to be done? You must obtain the right of search, and particularly from France; for it is plain that you must have security against the employment of the French flag; and you must likewise obtain the right to stop those persons who are now described as "neutrals," sailing under the American and Sardinian flags, and particularly the American, which consorts with the Brazilian and Portuguese, with two flags, two sets of papers, and two captains on board ship, so that the same vessel which sails from America with an American captain, American flag, and American crew, when she arrives at, or leaves a slave port, has a Brazilian or Portuguese captain, and with papers of one or other of those two countries, or none at all, as suits her convenience. From Sardinia you may be able to obtain that right, but certainly not from America. Then it is said that you must do something for the punishment of the crew. Dr. Lushington says that all your efforts will be futile until you can punish the crew. Some persons propose that you should hang them, some that you should hang the captain only; others, again, propose a limited number, three I believe—a quorum; a fourth proposition is that you should imprison or transport them. Dr. Lushington says, transport them, with the right of reclaiming them by their respective Governments. I will take them all without stopping to inquire into which is the better mode of dealing with them. But is there any man in this House who knows what is the temper of the rulers of the world towards each other who will for a moment believe that it ever will be permitted to England to exercise penal rights over the subjects of other nations? (Hear, hear.) I would wish hon. gentlemen would consider that subject if they entertain any belief that they are able to suppress the slave-trade by punishing the crew. Supposing we could get slave-trade declared to be piracy, and had power to deal with it as such—I grant, supposing we get rid of some other things, that there would be a probability of putting an end to the trade. There is another thing, which shows almost that Providence has designed that no one nation shall deal with the affairs of other countries. We have made treaties with Spain and Brazil which are broken every day. We have a treaty with Brazil, which she has broken every day for the last twenty years. We have tried to secure the freedom of the Emancipates; we endeavoured to make the Brazilians declare it a crime to import slaves into Brazil. This treaty has been repeatedly broken, and we have a perfect right to demand its fulfilment; and if we have the right to demand it, we have the right to do so at the point of the sword in case of refusal. We have now a perfect right to go to Brazil, and call upon her to emancipate every slave imported since 1830, and upon refusal, to make war with them even to extermination. The justice of your demand could not be doubted. The noble Lord opposite (Lord Palmerston) has been in the Foreign-office with zeal and ability, for the last fifteen years, and the Earl of Aberdeen for the other five years, yet neither of them ever entertained the idea of making or enforcing this demand upon Brazil. You would not dare to go to war upon this question with Brazil, much less with those whom you would find in the rear to support her. You must first, then, if you wish to suppress the slave-trade, repeal the Sugar Duties Bill; double your squadron; obtain the right of search from France and America; obtain the power to treat slave-trade as piracy, and those engaged in it as pirates; and you must compel Spain and Brazil to fulfil their treaties. If you have all these five, I grant that it might be right to make some further trial to put down the slave-trade by repression. The first two you might do—you cannot the three last; it would belong to other nations to do that; and we know full well that they would not consent to it. With respect to forts, martello-towers, and multiplication of treaties with black chiefs, if they are to be looked upon as the principal means of our suppressing the slave-trade, they become, instead of secondary aids, little better than means for blinding the people of England to the true merits and real state of the case. When I see the fact, that with the assistance of our squadron we are making no advance, but on the contrary losing ground, I am compelled to consider the question in its whole breadth, and to set aside those feelings which certainly would have inclined me, if I could have done so, to accede to the policy which has been hitherto pursued, and more especially, because I confess that I think it is impossible to point to any one definite measure as a substitute for the present system of repression by force, which will at once attain the end we have in view. But I must protest against simply, as I have said before—against anything like indifference on the part of the British Government to follow the abandonment of that repression by force. I apprehend, under any circumstances, the British Government will use effectual means for preventing its own subjects from engaging in the slave-

trade. I confess I see no reason why the British Government should not give aid in cases such as that of the Portuguese settlement upon the eastern coast, where the parties are endeavouring to put down the slave-trade. With respect to Cuba and Brazil, I do not think full justice has been done to either of those countries. The abolition of slavery in Cuba has been alluded to as a great triumph of our squadron. But why, then, has the importation of slaves been increasing in Brazil? By what magic, or charm, or secret influence was it that our cruisers always happened to hit upon the vessels intended for Cuba, and so seldom upon those intended for the Brazils? These vessels were all taken on the coast of Africa; and if the amount of captures averaging only six or seven per cent. upon the whole, how was it that all were destined for Cuba, and so few for the Brazils? (Hear, hear.) With respect to the Brazils, he believed it nothing better than most unmitigated iniquity to say that the feelings of the people there were dead to every manly and Christian feeling. Are there no persons in Brazil who are opposed to slavery? The noble Lord at the head of the Foreign-office stated, in his evidence before the committee, that there was a considerable party growing up in the Brazils on the principle of anti-slavery. I ask you to consider the position and prospect in which the members of that party stand, and how their secret influence and power of doing good is affected by your present system. The result of your present system must, I think, inevitably come in contact with the spirit of national independence in Brazil. (Hear.) I ask what would have happened to us, supposing our case, sixty years ago, had been that of Brazil at present? We were then pursuing the slave-trade, and were the greatest slave-traders in the world. Suppose there had been some other nation which was then half a century more advanced than us in the career of humanity and philanthropy, who abolished the slave-trade for itself, and, acting upon its conscientious feelings, prevented us from getting any slaves, and, in negotiations with us, compel us to the adoption of measures painful and repulsive to our feelings—I say, in that state of things, the progress of liberal opinions in this country would not have endured that interference, and the blood of every Englishman would have risen against the foreign intervention. If that would be our case 50 or 60 years ago, why may it not be the case of Brazil now? I say, therefore, that it is not visionary to look for that better growth of feeling in the people there. It should be remembered, also, that the immediate instruments of the slave-trade are not Brazilians. The planters are Brazilians, but the slave-merchants are Portuguese; and I think it was shown in the evidence before the House of Commons, as well as in that given before the House of Lords, that these Portuguese merchants are looked upon with jealousy by the people, that they are not popular in Brazil, and that therefore there is an additional ground for hope afforded that the feelings of the people there will alter. But, independently of the feelings of humanity and religion—independently, I say, of those feelings derived from the Christian religion which they profess—I contend that motives of policy will come in aid of those better feelings for suppressing the slave-trade, should the squadron be withdrawn. Mind, I do not say that the immediate effect of the withdrawal of the squadron would not be to increase the importation of slaves. (Hear.) That I think not impossible. Such might naturally be the case at first after abandoning suppressive measures. But, considering that the price of slaves in Brazil diminished one-half whilst our squadron was being decreased, I am inclined to agree with Sir Charles Hotham, when he says that the commercial wants of the country regulate the supply. But it ought also to be recollected, that of the six millions and a half of the population of Brazil, about 900,000 are odd and whites, and six-sevenths free blacks, Indians, and Negroes; and, under these circumstances, I think that prudential considerations alone would speedily bring about the effect of limiting within narrow bounds the importation of Negroes. But we have been told by the noble Lord, and by an abundance of other witnesses, that there is already this anti-slavery feeling in Brazil, and that we ought not to do anything to thwart it. Sir, there was a time when the Brazilian Government were disposed to make those overture which are now desired. Ten years ago they made a proposition to the Government of this country for the extinction of the slave-trade. That proposal did not meet with the favourable reception it deserved, although I think it was made in a *bond fide* spirit; and I therefore say that, however much you may deplore the policy of Brazil, you are not justified in saying, if the squadron is withdrawn, there will be an unlimited accession to the slave-trade. I think, on the contrary, they would impose regulations on that slave-trade, that they would endeavour to mitigate the sufferings of the slaves, and would introduce other measures in that direction. Sir, my hopes are more slender than I could wish, and then I have had pointed out to me in connection with the present system—for it appears to me that whatever may have been the zeal and activity you may have employed—whatever the liberality in the expenditure of public money—whatever the valour and skill of our officers, and the success of our treaty engagements with other nations, the object you have in view eludes your grasp, the slave-trader mocks your vigilance; and while you are in pursuit of that end which philanthropists hold most dear, you are only increasing those sufferings, which it is your object and your desire to prevent. (Cheers.)

Lord JOHN RUSSELL. Sir, I own that I am more anxious than I ever remember to have been before, that the House, in coming to a decision on this subject, should be impressed with a due sense of its importance (Hear, hear). It is a subject, I think, the importance of which it is quite impossible to exaggerate, or even to state in its full bearing. But, sir, to give some idea of its importance, allow me to remind the House, that at the beginning of this century England had slaves in all her colonies, that we carried on and permitted the slave-trade, and that the other powers of Europe which possessed colonies likewise sanctioned slavery (Hear, hear). In the course of time, almost at the beginning of this century, we have seen the Parliament of England abolish the slave-trade; we have seen England, by the treaty of Paris, make stipulations with all the nations of Europe, declaring the condemnation of the slave-trade; we have seen slavery itself abolished by an act of the English Parliament; we have seen the slave-trade practically, effectually, and entirely abolished, both by France and the United States; and we have seen slavery itself very lately abolished in France and Denmark. We have seen likewise that countries in Africa, which not many years ago were the strongholds of the slave-trade, have been rescued from that criminal traffic, and the peaceful rights of industry and trade flourish in those countries which had been the temples of that horrible idol (Hear, hear). Sir, it is these triumphs of humanity which I have shortly enumerated, which, having now been won for half a century, we are asked to stultify by a retrograde step (cheers)—by undoing all that which we have hitherto done (cheers)—proclaiming to the world by this first step, that we no longer take those measures against the slave-trade which we have hitherto taken—that we have no substitute to put in their place (cheers), and thereby spreading discouragement in every part of the world, and among those nations which, admiring our example, and feeling the truth of those Christian maxims we have professed, and wishing practically to act in the same manner, are endeavouring to follow those maxims and abolish this horrible crime. To refer only to that country to which the right hon. gentleman last alluded, namely, Brazil. The right hon. gentleman states that my noble friend near me gave evidence to the effect that a party in Brazil had sprung up hostile to the slave-trade. But since that evidence was given, later accounts have come from Brazil, and those later accounts, I am sorry to say, represent that that party is bitterly extinct. But that feeling it is, whatever it may be, which the right hon. gentleman proposes to rip up (Hear, hear). But, sir, I do not think the right hon. gentleman, in the beginning of his speech, gave a very correct account of the objects and effects of this motion. He said that it was necessary, as a first step, and in order that we should be free to consider what we should hereafter do, that we should relieve ourselves of those treaty obligations which we have with France. Now, every gentleman will remember that the treaty with France arose from the repugnance felt in France, and from the objections expressed in the French popular Assembly, to allowing a right of search to us; they will remember, also, that, as a substitute, it was proposed to put cruisers on the coast of Africa, in order to prevent the desecration of the French flag. That treaty has been most faithfully observed by France, although the numbers of vessels have been diminished; but I do not say that France and America, or any other country, has manifested the same zeal for carrying out the object which this country has had in view. I have no doubt that if France were asked to relieve you of that obligation, you would be relieved (hear). But if this were done, I ask, could you take that course with respect to the slave-trade which you now do? Would not the effect be, that every French slaver would hoist the French flag as a cover for his operations, and that you would not have the power to ascertain whether such vessels were pirates, or *bond fide* vessels of France (Hear, hear)? If such a course were taken, the flags of France and America would be used as a cover for the slave-trade, and Great Britain would have no means of checking the system. But I think, sir, it was hardly worth while for the right honourable gentleman to put forward the excuse he did for the motion, as the honourable gentleman who introduced it and the honourable gentleman who seconded it did not disguise that they thought this preliminary step necessary—that their object was to restore the slave-trade, and, as the honourable gentleman who seconded the motion called it free-trade in slaves (Hear, hear). Sir, it is that motion which I am prepared to meet, and which I ask this House not to sanction. But in asking the House not to sanction the motion, I do not wish to preclude any consideration of the subject which may hereafter be thought advisable; I do not wish to prevent the considerations of any substitute which may appear to the Government or to the members of this House necessary to secure the better suppression of the slave-trade. What I denounce, however, and what I ask the House not to sanction, is simply the reversal of all our past policy, and your saying that you will not take measures for putting down the slave-trade by a marine force, or by any other means (Hear, hear). Reference has been made to certain evidence given on this subject, alleged to be unfavourable to the carrying on these suppressive measures. But the language used was not to induce the Government or the country to relinquish these means of suppression, but to induce it to sanction additional means, those in force not being sufficient. There is all the difference in the world between using an argument of this kind, and saying that we must give up the task altogether (hear). He heard, a little while ago, an eloquent speech in this House in favour of the extension of education; and in the course of his statement the hon. member who brought the subject forward alluded to the increase of crime and to the number of committals, and showed the insufficiency which existed in the means of repression through the police, the courts of justice, and the galls, and he therefore urged the adoption of an additional mode of repression by means of education. That hon. gentleman, however, did not say that, because the existing means of repression have proved insufficient, and as crime has increased, in spite of the police, the courts of justice, and the galls, therefore we should abolish all of them. (Hear, hear, hear.) This is just the difference between his argument and the argument of the hon. member who brought forward the present motion. The hon. gentleman the member for Oldham said the means provided by the criminal law for the repression of crime have not proved sufficient;

therefore, take other means in addition to those you already have. The hon. member for Gateshead says (in 1849) the means for the repression of the slave-trade did not prove sufficient; therefore, let us take off all our ships instantly from the coast of Africa, and put an end to the blockade at all risks. The right hon. gentleman speaks of various means which made him think that the means of repression by a squadron are not effective; but in this the right hon. gentleman made some statements which, if I went through, I should be able to show were not justified by the documents before him. The right hon. gentleman alluded to the mortality on board the ships in the squadron under the command of Sir W. Dolben. I have reason to believe that the returns made on this subject are not of a very accurate character. Indeed, Dr. Cliffe said that he gave these returns to Mr. Bandinel, but they were very inaccurate, and were founded on very uncertain data. But, then, the right hon. gentleman suggests that the trade may be regulated; but there is no certainty or even probability to justify him in thinking so, or to lead to the conclusion that the Government of Brazil would be able so to regulate the middle passage, during which such cruel sufferings take place. If we look to the evidence published we shall see there was no prospect of such a measure. My hon. friend (Mr. Labouchere) stated the grounds of his opinion on this point; I therefore need not go further into it. It has been stated that, on the ground of humanity, this motion should be adopted, as the squadron for the suppression of the slave-trade aggravated the evils of the middle passage. Sir Charles Hotham, whose evidence has been so much relied upon, and whose testimony has been regarded with such high respect, says directly the reverse, and also says that if the trade was set entirely free they could not find the means of transporting the additional number of slaves, and therefore the horrors of the slave-trade would be increased. Captain Matson also told the Lords' Committee, in answer to the question as to whether there would be more humanity in the traffic of slaves if the squadron was removed, that he doubted whether there would be more or less, as they would be crowded as much as ever in the voyage across; and he adds, if the slave treaties were at an end, he did not believe the life of a slave in Brazil would be worth a year's purchase. (Hear, hear.) This would arise from the cheapness of the slaves. He was asked whether he did not think the presence of the squadron added to the sufferings of the slaves on their passage; in reply, he said he knew the time when the slave-trade was a legal commerce, and the sufferings were as great as afterwards. The slaves were sent in the worst class of vessels, generally ships with deep holds, in which many were placed, and there were two tiers of planks all round the interior of the vessel, and the only admission of air to the slaves was down the centre of the ship, but they were now conveyed in smaller vessels, but on only one deck, so that their sufferings were not probably so great. Such were the opinions of Sir C. Hotham and Captain Matson, who also considered, from the nature of the vessels which would be employed in the trade, that the disease and sufferings of the slaves in their passage would be greater if they set the slave-trade free, than if they continued the present system of repression. (Hear, hear.) One of the main reasons which has been urged in favour of this proposition is the economical one of saving expenditure. As we proceeded so far on the ground of economy, I very much felt the little force there was in favour of those who supported the motion on this ground. The hon. gentleman who made the motion said that the expenditure under this head amounted to £700,000, or probably to £800,000. But when we came to estimate the charge, I find that Sir Charles Hotham said that if the squadron was withdrawn we should still have to keep ten or twelve vessels on the coast of Africa, where we now keep twenty-six. Thus, then, it appears that, whatever course we might take we should still be liable to nearly half the expenditure. The right hon. gentleman said he would not give up all the force while they had the means of repressing the slave trade; for if he found Portugal wishing to suppress that traffic, he should wish this country to aid it. But how was this to be done? By means of advice and moral example, from which I fear little would be gained, or by means of our sailors and marines? If the right hon. gentleman means the latter, then the object of this motion would be defeated. (Hear, hear.) I think, therefore, it is impossible to believe that we can diminish the sufferings of the middle passage; on the contrary, that we shall aggravate it by withdrawing our squadron; that is to say, if we abandon the coast of Africa altogether, and give up that protection to our commerce which in all other parts of the world is thought necessary, and which, I say, we never can do—for if ever there was a commerce in the world for the protection of which a British naval force should be present to give aid, it was to that British commerce which had sprung up in those places where slavery formerly existed, and which must be given up, unless it received protection. (Hear, hear.) Sir C. Hotham said on this point, that the lives of British subjects would not be safe without some force on the coast; and the great witness examined before the committee, upon whose testimony so much reliance has been placed on the other side, said something to the same effect, for he stated that there would be a great deal of angry passion and revengeful feeling existing on the coast of Africa in consequence of the attempts made by Great Britain to repress the slave-trade, so that violence towards British subjects might be anticipated; it, therefore, would be necessary to keep up some force. If these are the main reasons which have been brought forward for the motion, I ask the House to consider what would be the evils its adoption would produce? I will here, again, state the opinion of Sir Charles Hotham on this point. He was asked what would be the effect of withdrawing the squadron, and his reply was, that he entertained the opinion that the withdrawal of the squadron would be most injurious to the honour of this great country, which had for such a long period contended for the destruction of the slave-trade, if this was done and nothing substituted in its place (Hear, hear). Sir C. Hotham may be right or wrong in this opinion, but it is a fair question for Parliament to consider, whether this country may not substitute for the present system another more effective one for the suppression of the slave-trade; but do not proceed with the honourable gentleman to withdraw and sweep away the present plan without the substitution of any other (Hear, hear). My first objection to the plan is, that it would be highly injurious to the honour of the country; in the next place, I think, without a greater force than that which we now keep up, we can preserve from the slave-trade those parts of Africa which have been rescued from the horrors of it. If the squadron was removed there would be such an immense rush to purchase slaves at the opening of the slave-trade, that attempts would be made by violence to substitute in those parts the slave-trade for that legitimate commerce which now exists there. We must recollect that the slave-trade existed there formerly, and had been destroyed; but when you consider the high profit of the slave-trade on the African coast, the chiefs seeing the indifference of England to the revival of the trade, they might be induced to change their system, if effectual means were not taken to protect English commerce from attacks (Hear, hear). My next objection is, that such an impetus would be given to the slave-trade that it would destroy all civilization in Africa, and it would put an end to all hopes of introducing civilization and Christianity into the interior of Africa, and no hopes could then be entertained that the slave-trade would ever be suppressed (Hear, hear, hear). In the next place, we must consider the effect which would be produced by an immense importation of slaves under a free slave-trade into Brazil. We may gather from the evidence of Lord Howden the enormous profits of this trade. That noble Lord had stated, when examined before the committee of the other House, that a cargo of slaves which cost 5000 dollars sold in Brazil for 25,000, thus making 500 per cent. profit on the venture (Hear, hear, hear). If such was the gain and profit in this trade, numbers of small capitalists would enter into it, and might reduce the profit a little by competition; but an immense quantity of the slaves would be destroyed in the passage. It is at present stated, that there are in Brazil immense tracts of land as well adapted for the cultivation of sugar as the finest portions of Trinidad or Demarara, and if there was an opening for the free admission of slaves, those parts of Brazil would be cultivated for sugar. I need hardly say that an immense deal of suffering would follow (hear). The right honourable gentleman said that he would put the question as to whether the mass of human suffering would increase or diminish by passing this resolution. I say there can be no doubt that, under the circumstances I have stated, there would be an immense increase of suffering in Africa—an immense increase in the Brazils by the extension of the African slave-trade, and the introduction of such a mass of slaves into the Brazils. Now, what are the speculations going on at Brazil at the present time? On seeing the committee which sat last year and the year before had made a report, they entertain the opinion that it is probable this country will abandon all efforts for the suppression of the slave-trade, and that thus they can obtain an unlimited supply of slave-labour. Some, indeed, go so far as to say that they should be able to cultivate sugar at such a cheap rate that no country could compete with them, so that they would furnish the whole supply of sugar for the European markets. It is admitted on all hands, and it is supported by the testimony of all the witnesses examined, that if our squadron were removed in the first instance, there would be an immense importation of slaves into Brazil. Conceive, then, the effect of this immense production of sugar, and what would follow. This brings me to another question, which the right hon. gentleman lightly touched upon, but with which our honour and interests are deeply involved. I mean the effect that would be produced on our West Indian colonies by the competition with Brazil, if we thus set free the slave-trade. I am not going to argue the question of the sugar duties of 1846, but I fully admit, that by the abolition of slavery in our colonies in 1833, and by the abolition of the prohibitive duties on slave-grown sugar in 1846, we have placed our West Indian colonists at great disadvantage. (Hear, hear, hear.) I am happy to feel, however, that the opinions I stated on both those occasions, that they would be able to bear these shocks, and I would found the cultivation of sugar on a new basis, have not been entirely disappointed. On the contrary, I observe, in the returns of the produce of sugar in 1849, that there has been a great increase since 1845 and 1846. The quantity produced in 1849 was greater than that produced in 1846, and it is now shown that the Africans who immigrated into the West Indian colonies, will work for less wages than they formerly demanded. But after these great advances, would it be reasonable or expedient, by allowing an immense increase in the number of slaves in the Brazils, to set the produce of that great number of slaves against the produce of our West Indian colonies? It would be more than the West Indian Islands would be able to bear. They would be unable to stand under such competition. (Hear, hear.) That of itself would not only be a great misfortune, as regards our interests, but a great misfortune in the contest between free and slave-labour. (Hear.) But there are other and conclusive reasons against the motion now proposed. In the first place, it would give a great and increased activity to the slave-trade. It would disturb the civilization of Africa, and would expose to ruinous competition the produce of the free labour of the West Indies (Hear, hear). But the right hon. gentleman asked what it is that we propose to do in carrying out the present system. Now, sir, during the last three years, I believe that we have on the coast of Africa been making great progress in the abolition of the slave-trade. That it has not been utterly suppressed—that it will not utterly be suppressed by the means in use, I admit; but the greater the territory to be civilized, and the greater the area from which the slave-trade is excluded, the less is the evil with which you have to cope, and the more amenable it will become (Hear, hear). The committee are indeed careful to reprobate all usages of force. They tell you that the destruction of barracoons, the infliction of the pains and penalties of piracy on the captains and crews of slave-ships, are not to be thought of as remedies

for the evil to be dealt with. Now, for my own part, I think that the destruction of barracoons and the capture of forts on the coast of Africa, are most powerful means for the suppression of the slave-trade in the territories immediately under our control. All the evidence we have proves this to be the case. I expect, therefore, most advantage from continuing the destruction of those barracoons (hear). Now, sir, allusion has been made to the opinion of Europe, as to our policy and our efforts for the destruction of the slave-trade. In what I have already stated, I mentioned that a great change in the public opinion of Europe had taken place since the commencement of our efforts. My opinion is, that if you were to address the different powers of Europe, that you would find opinion to be now more enlightened on this subject than it was when, in 1815, we began to inform them of our views in relation to slavery. I believe that if England, France, and the United States of America, having each of them suppressed their own slave-trade, were to use language not unfriendly, but, at the same time, firm, to Spain and to the Brazils—that such language from countries so united, so free, and so powerful, would have a very great effect indeed. (Hear, hear.) That Spain and the Brazils would despise that warning I am not ready to believe. If they did so—if they took no measures for the suppression of the trade, then you would again have to consider the whole question—to consider what progress you had made—whether the slave-trade had been more depressed in the current year than in the last—and what are the means for its most effectual abolition. That there are such means I do not think anybody will deny, but they are means condemned and reprobated by the majority of that committee, who, having been appointed to consider the best means for the effectual abolition of the slave-trade, appear to have had no other thought than how to condemn and reprobate the very means by which the slave-trade can be extinguished, and how best to leave alive and unhampered the means by which it can be fostered and nurtured. (Hear, hear.) But as to the suppression of the slave-trade I will not despond—I believe dependency in a great cause to be in itself a main cause of failure. (Cheers.) I can imagine a man saying in 1814, that for three centuries the Algerines have carried on their trade of plunder, piracy, robbery, and the carrying into captivity of Christians—that as this scheme had lasted for three centuries, no one could be so wild, so utopian, and so insane as to expect it to be put an end to. Sir, the very next year saw the termination of that practice of three centuries—(cheers), and the scheme of carrying Christians into captivity put an end to and abolished. Sir, if this cause is so good as to have enlisted the different nations of the world in its favour—with the exception only of Spain in one of its colonies, and of the empire of Brazil—then I consider it to be a cause anything but hopeless. (Hear, hear.) Nothing can destroy it save such an amount of moral courage as the honourable gentleman the mover of this motion displays. (Hear, hear.) Nothing but our being faint-hearted on this subject, and saying that we are unable to cope with the great evils to be met, will finally give a permanent sway and supremacy to the slave-trade. There are, sir, other considerations and other motives which may influence the House in coming to a decision on this question. Sir, we have been blessed with great mercies during the past year. We have more than once had to thank Almighty God for the dispensations of his goodness (Hear, hear). It appears, then, to me, that if we were now to say that the trade in man (cheers)—that this unhallowed and cruel traffic, against which England for near fifty years has been working by the efforts of her greatest statesmen and her best and bravest sailors (cheers)—that if we were to decide to allow this trade to be pursued freely and unhampered, that we should no longer have a right to expect a continuance of the signal blessings which we have enjoyed (Hear, hear). I think, sir, that the high, the moral, and the Christian character of this nation, is the main source and secret of its strength; and that, if this night you come to direct the Foreign Minister of the Crown to go forth with a dastardly—(great cheering)—with a dastardly message to France; that if we give up this high and holy work, and proclaim ourselves to be no longer fitted to lead in the championship against the curse and the crime of slavery, that we have no longer a right to expect a continuance of those blessings which, by God's blessing, we have so long enjoyed. (The noble Lord resumed his seat amidst great cheering.) Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR wished to be allowed to explain the reasons of the vote which he would this night give against a Government the general policy of which he cordially concurred with. He would support the motion of the honourable gentleman because he thought that its success would prevent this country from continuing to attempt the moral government of the world, on principles which, to his understanding, had ever been and were still condemned by the moral Governor of the universe in every page of his works (hear). Mr. HURT said a few words in reply, which were hardly audible on account of the impatience of the house for a division. He was understood to complain that it had been unwarrantably assumed by the opponents of his motion that he had no plan for the abolition of the slave-trade in reserve, but that at that late hour he would not take up the time of the House by its development. The House then divided, and the numbers were—

Ayes	154
Noes	232

The motion was consequently negatived by a majority of 78.

INTERMENTS.

The motion by Lord DUDLEY STUART for "An Address for a return stating for each of the last ten years the number of interments that have taken place in each cathedral church, chapel, chapel-yard, cemetery, or other place of interment, within fifteen miles of St. Paul's Cathedral, distinguishing (if practicable) whether made in vaults or otherwise," was, after a short conversation, negatived without a division.

PIRATES.

On the motion of Mr. HUME, returns were ordered of the names and tonnage of any British vessels, with the names of their respective commanders, and of the names of any British subjects that have been either captured, attacked, plundered, or in any way molested, by either Malay or Dyak pirates, on the coast of Borneo, or elsewhere, from the 15th day of August, 1839, to the 15th day of August, 1849, inclusive; specifying date and place of each case of such capture, attack, plunder, or molestation.

On the motion of Mr. Wood, Mr. Herries was added to the select committee on oaths of members, in the place of Mr. Disraeli.

The reports of the resolutions upon the Stamp Duties and Drainage Advances were brought up, and leave given to bring in Bills founded thereon.

The Factories Bill was read a second time. The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter-past two o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Small Tenements Rating Bill passed through committee after a lengthened discussion.

Sir J. PAKINGTON moved the committal of the Larceny Summary Jurisdiction Bill.

Mr. LAW considered that the bill contained two distinct principles, one that juvenile offenders should be subject to summary jurisdiction, and the other that adult offenders should be deprived of the benefit of trial by jury. To the latter principle he had insuperable objections. As the best mode of getting rid of that portion of the bill, the hon. and learned Recorder moved that it be an instruction to the committee to divide the bill into two parts.

Sir J. PAKINGTON defended the measure, which was limited to larcenies under the value of 1s.

Mr. McCULLAGH was opposed to the principle of the bill altogether, and intended to move that it be committed that day six months. In the meantime he would vote for the honourable and learned Recorder's amendment.

Sir G. GREY recommended the withdrawal of Mr. Law's amendment, and a division on Mr. McCullagh's amendment, as the most convenient course. Should the House go into committee, the learned Recorder would then move the striking out of that portion of the bill to which he objected.

Sir J. GRAHAM was against the proposed alteration of the law altogether, and therefore should vote for the rejection of the bill. He thought the sense of the House should be taken on the principle of the measure, which could be best done by a division on Mr. McCullagh's amendment.

After a short discussion, the House divided on Mr. Law's amendment—

For dividing the bill into two parts	124
Against it	54
Majority for Mr. Law's amendment	70

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Lord BROUGHAM presented a petition for the extension of the jurisdiction of county courts; also a petition from the members of the Whittington Club, one of the most useful and best-managed clubs in London, praying for the repeal of the taxes on knowledge; viz. the stamp duty on newspapers, the advertisement duty, and the excise duty on paper.

Earl FITZWILLIAM presented a petition from the inhabitants of Sheffield, with a similar prayer. He feared, however, that certain cheap publications were not by any means of a moral character.

Lord BROUGHAM at once admitted that the press ought to be very carefully watched. The noble and learned Lord made some observations explanatory of the plan adopted by the Committee of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge to secure the publication of good works at a cheap rate.

MUTINY BILLS.

The Mutiny Bill and the Marine Mutiny Bill were brought up from the House of Commons. They were respectively read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time.

Their Lordships sat for about half an hour.

On the motion of the Marquis of CLANICARRIDE the Turnpike-roads and Bridge trusts (Ireland) Bill, the Registrar of Metropolitan Public Carriages Bill, and the Consolidated Fund Bill passed through committee.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock.

Several petitions were presented against Sunday labour in the Post-office, the Marriage Affinity Bill, and the relay system in factories; and a great number in favour of a repeal of the duty on paper, advertisements, newspapers, and foreign books.

In answer to a question from Mr. Milner Gibson, Lord ASHLEY said he proposed to go into committee on the Factory Bill *pro forma* to-night, and then postpone the further progress of the measure till after Easter.

Mr. LABOUCHERE postponed the second reading of the bills relating to the merchant seamen till the 19th of April.

The Mutiny and Marine Mutiny Bills were read a third time and passed.

Mr. STUART WOOLLEY postponed the Marriage Bill till the 16th of April.

DIVISION OF LANDED PROPERTY.

Mr. L. KING submitted the following resolution to the House:—"That, con-

sidering the complaints which in many parts of the kingdom have proceeded from the owners and occupiers of land; and considering also the benefits which have arisen to all other classes from recent legislation promoting free-trade, it is expedient now to adopt measures for diminishing the existing restrictions on the free transfer of landed property, and for distributing such property, in cases of intestacy, according to the same rules as prevail in respect of personal property.

Mr. EWART gave his cordial support to the proposition, and hoped a measure founded upon it would be submitted for the consideration of the House.

Mr. NEWDEGATE characterised the motion as vague in its terms, and brought forward to effect an ulterior object.

Mr. HUME supported the motion, and said he did so because he thought the law of primogeniture should be altered, and he considered the motion a step in that direction.

Mr. MONCKTON MILNES also supported the motion, but stated that there was no compulsory law of primogeniture in this country; and where property was transmitted in that way, it was in consequence of the habits and feelings of the people.

After a few words from Mr. CHARTERIS, The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, that while he was as anxious as any hon. member to pass any measure which would have the effect of facilitating the transfer of real property, still there were so many difficulties in the way of carrying a practical measure founded on the resolution, that he thought it would be useless and inconvenient to pass it, and he would therefore vote against it.

Mr. BRIGHT supported the motion, the object of which was, in his opinion, to give facilities for dividing landed property in the same way as all other kinds of property in the country.

After a few words from Sir HARRY VERNEY in support of the motion, Mr. LOCKE KING replied shortly.

Strangers were ordered to withdraw, and the House divided, when there appeared—

For the motion	52
Against it	110
Majority	58

The motion was consequently lost.

Mr. M. GIBSON's motion for the repeal of the stamp on newspapers, the excise tax on paper, the tax upon advertisement, and the duty on foreign books, was postponed.

ALLIED AND DEPENDENT PRINCES OF INDIA.

Sir EDWARD COLEBROOKE moved for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the rights of succession of the allied and dependent Princes of India. The hon. gentleman was proceeding in his address, when he became so ill as to be obliged to sit down. A glass of cold water was sent for, but before it came.

Sir J. HOBHOUSE said: I would recommend to my hon. friend the hon. Baronet to adjourn this discussion. In his present state of health he will not do justice to himself or justice to his case if he proceeds.

Sir E. COLEBROOKE (in a very feeble tone of voice): I have to apologise to the House, but I came down unwell; and however anxious I am to proceed, I shall take the advice of the right hon. Baronet.

The discussion was then adjourned.

Mr. HUME moved for copies of the instructions from Sir Francis Collyer to Commander Farquhar, alluded to in Mr. Farquhar's report of the 25th day of August, 1849 (page 9): of Sir Francis Collyer's Report adverted to in Lord Edisbury's letter of the 9th day of November, 1849 (page 11): of Sir James Brooke's despatch to Lord Palmerston, relative to the building a fort at the entrance of the Sakarran river, noticed in Sir James Brooke's letter of the 1st day of October, 1849, and of the answer of Lord Palmerston thereto: and of the depositions taken by order of Sir C. Rawlinson, Recorder of Singapore, respecting the pirates destroyed by a force under the orders of Commander Farquhar, on the 31st day of July, 1849, for which Sir C. Rawlinson has granted certificates for bounty.—Ordered.

Mr. HUME moved for an account of the East India Company's charges for steamers and troops employed at Labuan, and on the coast of Borneo, from 1839 to 1849 inclusive.

Mr. FOX MAULE said the accounts asked for, as far as they had been received by the Government, had been laid before the House.—The return was then ordered.

Mr. HUME moved, in addition to the papers already before the House respecting the proclamation of martial law, and punishments under that law in 1849, for copies of all papers relating to the proclamation of martial law in the island of Cephalonia, in the beginning of the year 1833; together with the correspondence that took place on that subject between the then Lord High Commissioner and Colonel Conyers, then Resident in and for that island, and Commandant of the troops therein, by whom martial law had been so proclaimed.

Sir F. BARING hoped the motion would be postponed till to-morrow. Mr. HUME consented to do so.

MARRIAGES BILL.

This bill went through committee *pro forma*.

PIRATES (HEAD MONEY) REPEAL BILL.

This bill passed through Committee.

BRICK DUTIES BILL.

This bill was read a second time.

SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTRIBUTION BILL.

This bill, as amended, was considered, and the amendments agreed to.

JUDGMENTS (IRELAND) BILL.

The House went into committee on this bill, and the several clauses were agreed to.

REAL PROPERTY CONVEYANCE BILL.

The committee on this bill was postponed.

COUNTY RATES AND EXPENDITURE BILL.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON nominated the following select committee to whom this bill should be referred:—Mr. Cobden, Lord Brooke, Mr. Edward Littleton, Sir John Duckworth, Mr. Kershaw, Mr. Cornwall Lewis, Mr. Frewen, Mr. Wrightson, Lord Rendlesham, Viscount Barrington, and Mr. Osborne.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON objected to the composition of the committee. The bill proposed to repeal a great number of Acts of Parliament, of a complex and intricate nature, and yet there was not a single professional gentleman connected with the law on the committee; and without disparaging the qualifications of any of the members proposed, he thought they should have upon it professional gentlemen and members who were conversant with county business. He was sure that, as at present constituted, the proceedings of the committee would not give satisfaction to the public, and he would, therefore, suggest that the list should be withdrawn altogether and another one substituted.

Mr. M. GIBSON said his only object was to get a fair and impartial committee; and in the list he had proposed there were the names of gentlemen thoroughly acquainted with the subject of the bill, and he would, therefore, persevere in his motion.

Major BERESFORD proposed that the Earl of March's name should be substituted for that of Mr. Kershaw, and in doing so took occasion to say that the committee was unfairly selected, and should be considerably altered.

Mr. SPOONER rose to move that the debate be adjourned, as there were so few members in the House, and he hoped the right hon. gentleman would not oppose the motion.

Mr. HEYWORTH said that at that hour (a quarter to eight) the attendance in the House was generally thin.

Mr. AGLONBY hoped the right hon. gentleman would persevere in having the committee nominated to-night.

After a few words from Mr. HUME and Mr. FREWEN,

Mr. FOX MAULE hoped the hon. gentleman opposite (Mr. Spooner) would withdraw his amendment for the adjournment of the debate, as there were, in his opinion, a sufficient number of members present to dispose of the matter before them.

After a few words from Sir John Pakington, Sir George Pechell, Mr. Newde, gate, and Sir Henry Willoughby,

Mr. SPOONER withdrew his motion for an adjournment.

Strangers were then ordered to withdraw, and the House divided on the motion that Mr. Kershaw be a member of the committee, when there appeared—

For the motion	37
Against it	11
Majority	26

The name of Mr. Deeds was added to the committee.—Agreed to.

The committee was then appointed, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes past eight.

According to a return just published, the number of interments which have taken place yearly since 1839 in the churchyard and vaults of St. Margaret's, Westminster, are as follow:—In 1840, 6 in the vaults and 131 in the churchyard; in 1841, 3 in the vaults and 150 in the churchyard; in 1842, 3 in the vaults and 132 in the churchyard; in 1843 the respective members of interments in the vaults and in the churchyard were 5 and 124; in 1844, 1 and 67; in 1845, 2 and 68; in 1846, 3 and 70; in 1847, 2 and 80; in 1848, 5 and 59; in 1849, none in the vaults, and 50 in the churchyard.

Lord Langdale is appointed one of the Deputy Speakers of the House of Lords, to preside in the absence of the Lord Chancellor, in addition to Lords Denman and Campbell. This appointment is rendered necessary by the continued illness of Lord Denman and the necessary absence of Lord Campbell en circuit. These arrangements are not attended with any additional expense.

On Saturday, the 16th inst., between four and five o'clock in the afternoon, as Mr. Osborne, traveller to Herries and Co., of Manchester, was driving in his gig from Bala to Llanfyllin, North Wales, at a lonely part of the road near the top of Borwyn Mountain, four miles from any dwelling-house, he was attacked by three men, who stopped his horse and dragged him out. Mr. Osborne attempted to struggle with his assailants, but he was beat about the head till he became insensible, and whilst in that state they took from the gig box £275 in gold and silver. The ruffians got clear away.

Baron Puchner, military and civil Governor of Venice, has published two proclamations, dated the 7th, relating to political refugees. By the first, it is declared that those who have hitherto neglected to apply for a regular permission to emigrate shall henceforward be considered in the light of unauthorised emigrants, and their property shall be put under sequestration accordingly. In the second proclamation, it is announced that all persons belonging to the Venetian provinces, or its capital, who are now in foreign parts in consequence of political events, or who left Venice in consequence of the capitulation of that city, may freely return within the following month of April.

TOWN TALK AND TABLE TALK.

A BUDGET and a Ministerial crisis—both of them crammed into the space of seven days—have naturally made politics and finance the leading topics of the week. Not that the crisis was of any very lengthened duration: it began in a forenoon, and ended in an afternoon. On Tuesday morning, those metaphorical scourges, the Treasury whips, were cracking through all the West-end, and the political fiery cross was flying from club to club in St. James's-street and Pall-mall. Vast excitement immediately among the Tapers and the Tadpoles! Abundance of significant nods and winks, conveying exclusive information and latest particulars! All the well-brushed hats on the heads of all the gentlemen were wagging behind the plate-glass windows of Brooks's and the Conservative, the Reform and the Carlton! "Things are up at last! I thought it would be so," "Russell to resign!" "Who comes in?" "Disraeli recovered from his influenza?" And all the *quid nuncs* posted backwards and forwards between Downing-street and Pall-mall with tidings of what Palmerston had said at breakfast, and what Lord John had thought while shaving. But the Ministerial affection took a favourable turn. What the doctors at first thought to be a desperate case of small-pox at the best, turned out the gentlest chicken rash. Lord John called together his supporters, told them he meant to stand or fall by Quashee, and that the moment the Gold Coast was ordered to be left unblockaded there would be unpressed cushions on the Treasury bench and deserted halls in Downing-street. So the 160 good Whigs and true looked a little glum, and grumbled as much as was proper and decorous, and Mr. Hume had, of course, a few words to say, and there was a considerable deal of sulking; but, in the end, the pliant M.P.s accepted the pill, made a wry face or so, said "this was really too bad," and gulped it down. So the slave squadron continues on its African beat. Mr. Carlyle's maxim, that "enough has been done for Quashee," has been rejected by Parliament, and we are still to spend our annual million in chasing Brazilian schooners and Spanish clippers in and out of the foggy mouths of African rivers. By the way, I observe, from an analysis in a newly-published Parliamentary paper, that the percentage of our own sailors who die annually on the fever-haunted coast of the Gallinas and Benin, is almost identical with the mortality in the holds of slavers during the middle passage.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, who still looks pale and weak, made his financial statement, leaning not very gracefully on a stick. His propositions have been somewhat cavalierly honoured with the title of the "Brick-dust Budget." I am told, at least, that we are in future to have the most beautiful houses ever seen. The fact is, that, owing to Excise meddling, our nineteenth-century bricks are, in all probability, not much better than those which the Children of Israel made—without straw—in Egypt. "Had we our own way in these things," said a builder to me the other day, "we should have had by this time bricks as fine and as handsome as porcelain. We should have had them of all shapes and sizes—for pediment and pillar, portico and arch. We should have had them as bright and as hard as marble." The Pecksniffian interest has now, then, the prospect of a fair start before it: we shall see if they succeed in founding a new order of domestic architecture.

The Ten Hours' Bill is another item of Parliamentary interest. I may mention, *apropos* of it, that in the course of a visit to Manchester, last winter, I saw a very interesting exhibition—a collection made at one of the largest mills—of articles of female work, plain and ornamental, produced by the girls employed amongst the spindles of the establishment, during the leisure time afforded by the Ten Hours' Bill. The display was quite as pretty as one sees in the state drawing-rooms of the awfully prim young ladies' institutions which so abound in the scholastic regions of Hammersmith and Peckham Rye. Every one of the varying schools of crochet, knitting, netting, and *chenille* (I think it is called), were amply represented. Of the humble sampler of our grandmothers, with a straight up and down house, liberally furnished with two chimneys, four windows, and a door, and built upon the top of the Alphabet and the Ten Commandments—of this old-world style there were but one or two humble specimens. Manchester has, indeed, left all sorts of grandmamma notions far out of sight. But then Bonaparte capered over the Alps in the gauzy diadem of needwork; and Moses—whom, by the way, Napoleon once oddly characterised as the greatest of infantry generals—floated among the bulrushes in the brightest-tinted worsteds. Then there were anti-macassars, even among mill-girls, and purses with cunning work in beads, and collars and chemisettes of most complicated build and fashion, and all sorts of baby boots and shoes and mits, the products of nimble fingers and glancing knitting needles. Some of the contributors to this museum of domestic industry, whose taste did not lie in the path which would conduct it through the eye of a needle, brought copy-books and tremendous calculations in long division, proudly pointing to their calligraphic and arithmetic achievements as the fruits of shortened hours amid the drawing-frames and the carding-machines.

By the way, in the Lancashire excursion to which I have alluded, I was made acquainted with some of the shades of difference which the eye of a stranger does not readily catch, but which individualise the seemingly monotonous cotton towns. Thus, Bolton, for example, affords a specimen of the old spinning population of Lancashire. Ancient customs and ancient prejudices are nurtured there, and the mass of the work-people are hardly up to the modern social average. Ashton, on the contrary, is spick and span new—of course, I mean in a comparative sense of the word—and its population is less exclusively Lancashire than that of many of its neighbours. Oldham works up into coarse wares the refuse cotton of the finer spinning towns. Staleybridge has the most Irish population; and Blackburn is said to take the lead in all efforts made for the quickening of the working of machinery. Furthermore, the inhabitants of certain other Lancashire seats of industry are characterised as follows—a "Liverpool gentleman," a "Manchester man," a "Bolton fellow," and a "Rochdale chap." An anecdote is floating about which may serve as a sort of pendant to the famous story of the man—and, by the way, he was, perhaps, not such a fool as he is generally reckoned—who preferred dumplings to Coleridge's metaphysics. A friend of Dr. Layard's was expatiating to a gentleman of the Stock Exchange, in a rather high-down style of panegyric, upon the historic grandeur and significance of the discoveries made at the mound of Nimroud. "Was there not something," demanded the enthusiast, "something awfully sublime in this, as it were, lying bare and open these relics of an earlier world, in calling up before one's eyes the mouldering tokens of those past empires which have faded while the universe was yet young, in identifying, as it were, those terrible shadows stalking dimly amid the brooding mists which came forth where the page of antique history stretches away into darkness—Sesostris, Semiramis, and the Shepherd Kings?" and so forth—as the reader will perceive—the enthusiasm being somewhat strained and turgid. Nevertheless, the gentleman from Stager's-alley bore it in silence for a moment or two, and then suddenly broke the flow of eloquence by inquiring, in the most natural tone in the world, "But, I say, old fellow, if a man were to go out there and see all the what-d'ye-call-'ems, how would he manage? Would there be any getting at such a thing as beer, of nights?"

The sad circumstances of the break-up at the Olympic Theatre are still a staple matter of discussion before and behind the curtain, at the wings and in the lobbies of every playhouse in London. Mr. Watts has, I understand, four shares in the Globe Insurance Office, in which he is, therefore, a proprietor, as well as a clerk. Some months ago, I am informed, he was invited by the directors to give some account of his monetary affairs in connexion with his position in the office, when he produced documents to prove that the profits from the theatre with which he was connected were so considerable, that all suspicion was at once dispelled. A few nights before the closure of the Olympic Theatre, "The Rivals" was played; and upon that occasion—a circumstance almost unparalleled in the theatrical annals—not one single person paid for admission to the boxes!

Has anybody lately observed the extraordinary alleged prevalence of a complaint of the lungs and air passages, technically called "bronchitis?" Wherever I have lately gone, I have been sure to hear of somebody suffering under "bronchitis." Even ladies, who very rarely trouble themselves about medical hard words, and are commonly wont to describe any puzzling disease as "something internal," have caught up the phrase, and prate as glibly about bronchitis as so many members of the College of Physicians. One naturally begins to wonder whether any particular change has occurred either in our atmosphere or our lungs, to make us more liable to this alarmingly-sounding "bronchitis" than we used to be. Has "bronchitis," in fact, got to be epidemic? Not a bit of it. The air is not more foggy, nor are our windpipes more fragile, than they used to be. But the name has got fashionable. There is a run upon "bronchitis." Everything wrong in the air passages has now got to be bronchitis. It is—"CATARRH to be BRONCHITIS, *vice versa*," resigned." The fact is, we are a fashion-loving people. We have fashions in everything. We have fashions in baby-clothes, and fashions in shrouds. Now we make a rush forward—it is the fashion to be scientific, and ladies mount blue spectacles and talk about oxygen. Anon, we rush backward—it is the fashion to be mediæval; ladies discard blue spectacles for chateaulaines, and all the antiquarian upholsterers of Wardour-street make their fortunes. Sometimes a disease—the name, and not the thing, of course—becomes fashionable. Sometimes a medicine gets to be all the rage. Brandy and salt stood at the head of the popular Pharmacopœia a few years ago. At present the post of honour is assuredly occupied by cod liver oil. I remember hearing an old lady bless her stars that she was born before nerves were invented; and in like manner people may congratulate themselves on their luck if they escape cold during the prevalence of the fashion which solemnly elevates all such distempers to the learned dignity of "bronchitis."

What a curious chapter might be written touching the foundation-stones of the fortunes of men who have played conspicuous parts in the world! How many have owed their first start in life to an accidental meeting—an accidental liking—or to the casual occurrence of any of the thousand and one catastrophes in the chapter of accidents, which, somehow, happening in the right place, and at the right time, forges in an instant an unforeseen and important chain of events, for good or evil as the case may be. Let the dealer in the curiosities of the department of biography which I have indicated by no means forget to include in the examples he may give, the following story. It may, as I am assured, be depended upon as strictly accurate, and it refers to a man now most deservedly high in public confidence and esteem, as one of the clearest-headed, most indefatigable, and most sternly honest, of British legislators.

Considerably more than half a century ago there dwelt in a small borough in Dorsetshire a poor widow, who earned a humble but respectable livelihood for herself and her only son, by keeping a stall, principally for the sale of crockeryware, in the market place. It was a time when gentlemen lived harder than they do now; and, although the word "Waterlooding" had not been invented, the thing implied by it was greatly in vogue. The townspeople then were not unaccustomed to the occasional frisks and rough practical jokes of a neighbouring gentleman who had lately succeeded to enormous property and a peerage; and there was no particular surprise manifested when late one even-

ing the humble stall of the widow was overturned in an after-dinner frolic, and the brittle ware it contained smashed upon the street. The aggressor was Lord Panmure, father of the Right Hon. Mr. Fox Maule. Next morning the proprietress of the stall waited upon his Lordship, and the claim for damages was soon settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

"And now, my good woman," said the overthrewer of the crockeryware, "is there anything else I can do for you?"

The widow replied that she had an only son, a sharp little fellow, whom she would wish to see receiving a better education than her limited means would enable her to bestow on him. Lord Panmure at once promised the necessary aid. He was as good as his word. Little Joey was sent for. The intelligence and sharpness of the boy were readily recognised and highly commended, and he was at once placed in an excellent school.

Such was the curiously caused commencement of a long career of industry and honour. The little boy—the poor widow's son—was no other than—Joseph Hume. A. B. R.

ASSYRIAN SCULPTURE.

At the ordinary meeting of the Royal Institute of Architects, 16, Lower Grosvenor-street, on Monday evening, Mr. Bellamy, vice-president, in the chair, Mr. Sidney Smirke, Fellow of the Institute, read "Some remarks on the style of ornamentation prevalent in the Assyrian sculpture recently discovered, and on some peculiarities of Assyrian architecture disclosed by Mr. Layard's discoveries." Mr. Smirke exhibited some admirable casts of portions of the sculpture which he had taken from the remains now deposited in the British Museum, representing armlets, bracelets, hilts of swords, a singular kind of foliage belonging to a tree apparently an object of worship, the hems and borders of costumes, human figures, horses, &c. Considering the extreme antiquity of these remains, the only moderate hardness of the material, and the lowness of the relief, these sculptures must be considered as remarkably well preserved. Major Rawlinson, who had mastered to a great extent the knowledge handed down in the strange characters found on these remains, entertained the opinion that the earlier ruins dated twelve or thirteen centuries before the Christian era. The love of ornament common to Eastern nations was remarkable in these specimens. Every figure had some carved representation of ornament; even the common soldiers had their weapons covered with rosettes, bulls' heads, and other figures, and the trappings of horses were most richly decorated. As the finger-ring, amidst these minute decorations, was nowhere to be found, it was presumed that that was an ornament unknown to the Assyrians. Without going into the question of the antiquity of finger-rings, he might state that they were mentioned in Esther and Jeremiah; and Pausanias, who wrote 422 years before Christ, related that he saw on a painting on the walls of a temple, a figure of Phœbus, which had a ring on the hand. There was, however, no such example known to exist at the present time in Greek sculpture. Very few illustrations of domestic furniture had been found; but there were chairs with feet imitating the feet of animals—an ornament usually adopted in Greek art, and continued downwards through the mediæval period. The ornamental drawings exhibited frequently a spirit and artistic skill which would do no discredit to our best artists. They had a freedom of execution wholly unknown in Egyptian remains. The honey-suckle ornament, which appeared very commonly, was as perfectly classic in its execution as the numerous specimens which were to be found in Greek art. The most trifling and mean objects were profusely decorated; and the mass of drawings of this description was so immense, that they must have been the work of the ordinary artisans. He doubted whether there were five working sculptors in England who could work on a piece of marble winged wolves and antelopes with such a freedom of execution and boldness and accuracy of drawing. These figures had, in fact, a strong analogy to the works of the Greeks; and he believed that the banks of the Tigris and the Euphrates were more entitled than the banks of the Nile and Egypt to the honour of giving birth to Greek art. Mr. Smirke then proceeded to show at some length the connexion of the Assyrian objects of worship, such as goats and bulls, with those of the Egyptians; and he drew an interesting comparison between a deity springing from a wheel, which is much represented in these Assyrian sculptures, and the wheels mentioned in the 8th chapter of Ezekiel. The total absence of columns was remarkable. Mr. Layard mentioned only one instance in which he had found them, and he presumed, from other circumstances, that they were of later date. In one of the casts now exhibited there was a representation of a sort of tent roof supported by three pillars, which were so slender as to lead to the presumption that they must have been of wood. At the tops of these pillars were placed the horns of a goat, so arranged that they suggested the idea of Ionic capitals. The style of architecture to which the first Jewish temple might be attributed had long been a matter of controversy, but he was disposed to think that these magnificent ruins afforded a better clue than any we had hitherto possessed. Geographically and politically speaking, the kingdom of Israel had more connexion with these people than with the Egyptians; and it was from the countries west of Judea that Solomon sought his "cunning workmen" who were employed in the building of the temple. In conclusion, he referred to the recent accounts from Nineveh as being provokingly vague and meagre. There had been found, it would appear, a most miscellaneous collection of rich armour, antique vessels, costly apparel, and other treasures, put together in a manner perfectly perplexing. An ingenious pupil of his, Mr. Keitch, had, however, drawn his attention to a passage in Diodorus Siculus, which would perhaps help to explain so otherwise utterly unaccountable a circumstance. Sardapalus, as they all knew, when his danger was imminent, and the Median enemy in possession of his city, owing to a sudden irruption of the river breaking down 20 stadia of the walls, collected together all his valuables, his vestments, his armour, his gold and silver, and all his treasures, and formed of them a grand funeral pile. On the top he placed his wives, his concubines, his servants, his eunuchs, and himself, and applying the torch, the whole were burnt together. Diodorus relates that one of the eunuchs, not yet tired of life, or at least having an insurmountable objection to so fiery a mode of going out of it, made his escape and gave information to a Babylonian priest, that under the ruins of the king's palace might be found enormous treasures. The priest went straight to Arbaces, who, in the midst of his triumph, was distributing rewards to his satraps, and reminding the monarch that he had predicted the fall of Nineveh, said that in the midst of the battle he had vowed a vow to Belus, that, if the Babylonians were victorious, he would convey the ruins of the Royal Palace to Babylon, and erect there a temple to that god, which should be at once a monument of the destruction of Nineveh, and serve as a landmark to those who navigated the river that ran through that great city. The Median King, who was described by Diodorus as possessing a noble and generous disposition, granted him all the ruins of the Royal Palace for this purpose. The priest then, with the help of the eunuch, removed the greater part of the treasure; but the fraud was discovered, and he was condemned to death. The operations of the priest, so far as the treasures were concerned, were surreptitious, and of course the investigation of the ruins could not have been so complete as if it had been conducted openly and deliberately; and that would seem to account for the incongruous heap of valuables discovered by Mr. Layard. Thus, if the eunuch had not had so natural a distaste to be one of the principals in the *auto-da-fé* of the monarch, Mr. Layard would have been by this time in possession of the treasures of Sardapalus. (Loud cheers.)

In the course of the discussion which followed, in which Messrs. Donaldson, C. H. Smith, H. B. Garling, Scholes, Fowler, sen., Ferguson, Smirke, and the Chairman took part,

Mr. Ferguson said that the last letters from Dr. Layard announced that he had discovered the throne of the King, upon which there was not the slightest trace of fire. It was principally of ivory, with gold ornaments. There were traces of cloth trappings, and the gold thread with which it was sewn and embroidered still remained. This throne had been found in the same ruin as that which contained the miscellaneous collection of valuables already alluded to, but not in the same chamber. The condition of the articles discovered proved indisputably that that palace had never been destroyed by fire. Major Rawlinson, had, however, satisfactorily determined that Nimroud was not Nineveh: that city had not yet been excavated. The name of Jonah having been found at the onset, on the ruins, no further excavations were allowed by the Mohammedans on that spot.

It was stated by Mr. Smith that the material on which the sculptures now in the British Museum were carved was not alabaster, but a calcareous substance of stalaetic origin—a carbonate of lime in short, and not gypsum or sulphate of lime.

The chairman said that he had observed one was a conglomerate or freestone.

DEATH OF A MISEE WORTH £50,000.—During the last few days considerable interest has been excited in the neighbourhood of Sadler's Wells, in consequence of the death of Mr. William Crew, hairdresser, No. 32, Arlington-street, who, though always living in the most penurious manner, is said to have died worth £50,000. The following facts have been stated on good authority:—Deceased came up a charity boy, in 1790, to try his fortune in London, and was taken as errand-boy by Mr. Frederick Hartland, hair-dresser, at Sadler's Wells, on whose death he succeeded to the business. He was remarkable for his penurious habits, and, after some years, married a person as penurious as himself. About a week before his death he disclosed to Mr. Turpin that he was worth nearly £50,000 in scrip in railway companies, houses, &c., which he promised to leave to him, and, after his death, the draft of a will to that effect was found. His bed consisted of a few rags. His property, which he made by loans and speculations in the stocks and public companies, is claimed by a cousin of the deceased, and the case is likely to cause litigation.

By a return just presented to Parliament by her Majesty's command, of grants made to schools upon conditions not involving the acceptance of management clauses, it appears that 444 schools have received grants of that description to the amount of £10,661 0s. 7½d. already paid, and £17,228 conditionally due. The return does not include the numerous class of schools which have obtained grants to enlarge and furnish them with fixtures, being already held in trust for educational purposes at the time of applying to the Committee of Council on Education.

A parliamentary paper just printed, at the instance of Mr. Hume, contains an account of the sums which have been voted by Parliament for the destruction of pirates from 1826 to the 17th of December, 1849. The amount is £57,255. The payments were as follows (£20 and £5 being allowed per head):—In 1826, £4745; 1827, £1955; 1828, £4850; 1829, £4065; 1830, £780; 1831, £180; 1837, £7865; 1838, £1585; 1839, £2210; 1842, £185; 1843, £1280; 1844, £795; 1845, £4540; 1848, £120; 1849, £18,190.

In consequence of an erroneous impression having gained circulation, that by the late melancholy accident at the Hunslow-beath powder-mill, an annihilation and total suspension of the manufactory has ensued, we have been requested to state that the portion of the premises affected by the catastrophe forms only a small part of the extensive works; all the remainder continues in perfect working order, and will shortly be put in full operation.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Her Majesty has given her presentation to Christ's Hospital to a son of the brave and lamented Brigadier Pennycuik, who fell, with another of his sons, at the head of his regiment, on the fatal field of Chillianwallah. Prince Albert has given his presentation to a son of the Rev. Mr. Ward, of Tenderden, who married the daughter of Lord Nelson.

For the last week some importations of oysters have been made into Hastings, from a newly-discovered bed, of some magnitude, lying about mid-channel off Dungeness Point, and south-east of Hastings.

The Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury having been pleased, by their order of the 28th ult., to direct that Runcorn, which had been constituted an independent port as an experimental measure for three years, by their Lordship's order of the 21st December, 1846, is to be placed on its former footing as a creek within the port of Liverpool, the Board of Customs have directed that the measure is to take effect from and after the 5th day of April proximo.

About twelve o'clock on Sunday night, in the vicinity of Richmond, the glass, in a northern aspect, but in a sheltered position, ranged below 25.

Seventeen Arabs have just quitted the Château of Amboise (France), to return to Africa. They proceeded to Marseilles, and from thence to Oran. Among these Arabs is an old man, 100 years of age, the uncle of Abd-el-Kader. One of them has been so initiated in French manners and customs, as to be a very accomplished dancer of the polka.

The Dowager Countess de Montalivet, formerly Lady of Honour to the Empress Josephine and Marie Louise, has just died at her estate at Tavenay, near Sancerre (France).

The accounts from Plymouth of the mackerel fishery there are very satisfactory. On Sunday, one boat brought in 16,000; and on Tuesday, another more than 17,000 fish. A French lugger caught 5000, and one belonging to Yarmouth 14,000. Besides the mackerel, a considerable quantity of superior fish, such as soles, turbot, dories, brill, &c., has been caught.

A rumour having been circulated in Paris that the Marquis de la Rochejacquelein had voted for the Socialist candidates, the Marquis has addressed a note to the papers denying the fact; he voted for MM. La Hite, Bonjean, and D'Arbouville.

It has been denied on the part of the Duke de Levis that he had requested the Legationists to vote for the Socialists at the late election.

Five private soldiers have been condemned to death by court-martial, at Lyons, for having joined the insurgents in that city on the 15th June last.

An individual named Chabot has been sentenced by the Court of Assize of the Indre et Loire (France) to solitary confinement for eight years, and to remain during his life under the surveillance of the police, for having endeavoured to cast a railway train off the rails by placing large blocks of wood across them.

Letters from Solignac, in the department of the Dordogne, state that the late cattle fair held in that town was the best that had been known for fifty years. There were 800 fat bullocks purchased there for Paris alone, and at a remunerating price to the feeders.

The Abbé Pons Gregoin, senior Canon of the Cathedral of Valence, in the department of the Drôme (France), died there on the 13th inst., in the 102d year of his age.

A pension of £100 a year has just been bestowed from the Royal bounty on the wife of the poet Moore, in consideration of the literary merits of her husband and his infirm state of health.

On Sunday the various Hibernian lodges celebrated the anniversary of Ireland's patron saint by walking in procession through the streets of Liverpool. This was in despite of a placard issued by the Orangemen, that if the authorities did not put down the procession, they would! Every police precaution was taken, and no disturbance took place.

Charles J. A. Piesse, Esq., is appointed Colonial Secretary for Western Australia.

On Monday morning the Right Hon. the Lord Bishop of London preached a sermon in the old parish church of Hackney, to a crowded and highly respectable congregation, on behalf of the funds of the London Orphan Asylum, at Clapton. After the sermon the congregation liberally responded to the energetic appeal made by the bishop.

An eloquent preacher, who had gained admission to several pulpits in remote villages in the county of Westmoreland, has been discovered not to be in holy orders. It is stated that the rural dean has referred the case to the bishop of the diocese, and the result is, that the parties implicated are cited to appear before the Ecclesiastical Court.

The University of St. Andrew's has lately conferred the degree of D.D. upon the Rev. Joseph Wolf, LL.D., vicar of Isle Brewers, Somerset, the celebrated Oriental traveller.

Sir Charles Morgan has kindly given, for the church at Bassaleg, Monmouthshire, an organ which had been in the family at Tredegar Park for some time.

Mr. Frewen and Viscount Bernard have prepared and brought in a bill to extend to Ireland the act 1st and 2d Vict., cap. 74, which facilitates the recovery of the possession of tenements after due determination of the tenancy.

Those of the great Scotch banks which attempted the introduction of the London system, in regard to interest on current accounts, have found it objectionable, and it is now abandoned.

The members of the Woburn episcopal chapel, St. Pancras, presented a purse, containing 270 sovereigns, on Friday evening week, to the Rev. Phillip Bennett Power, M.A., accompanied with a complimentary address.

The revenue authorities have granted permission for ochre to be added to the list of articles allowed to be landed at all the first-class surferance wharves in the port of London, under the usual regulations and conditions.

The very Rev. the Dean of Westminster, we regret to state, still continues very indisposed at Islip, near Oxford, and but little or no change for the better has taken place in the doctor's health.

On Saturday a gentleman was stopped outside Manchester, and robbed of £375.

Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to become the patroness of the Female Orphan Asylum, Lambeth, of which his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge is the president.

A new branch of industry has sprung up in Newcastle. Juvenile disciples of Isaak Walton may be seen in the streets patiently reposing by the side of a grate, with a line and baited hook in the sewer, to catch rats. Their prey are sold to the jackals of the rat-hunters—men who keep hundreds of rats in store and sell them to sportsmen.

The Archbishop of Canterbury preached at Highgate Church on Sunday last on behalf of the Church Pastoral Aid Society, when a collection was made amounting to £70.

The Right Hon. Stephen Lushington, D.C.L., Chancellor of the diocese of London and Rochester, has appointed the Rev. Roger Dawson Duffell, M.A., of Lamars, Essex, to be a Surrogate of the Commissary Court of the Lord Bishop of London.

The arrangements for the construction of a cemetery at Brighton have been concluded, and every impediment removed. It has been agreed by the vicar to receive £50 for the first year after the completion of the cemetery and the consecration of the necessary portion of land, £75 for the second year, and £100 per annum during the continuance of the company, and the use by them for the purpose of interment of such consecrated portion of land. The establishment of a cemetery at Brighton has afforded general satisfaction.

The *Hull Advertiser* says:—"An affecting scene occurred on Tuesday last at this port, when twenty-two seamen, accustomed to the northern regions, and who had been engaged by Captain Austin, R.N., C.B., to accompany him in search of Sir John Franklin, took leave of their wives and children upon the pier of the Humber Dock, and immediately afterwards departed in the steam-ship *Vivid*, for London, there to join their commander and his crew, who are to sail on the 1st of May."

At the assizes at Swansea, last week, Mr. Rhys, an engineer, obtained a verdict of £1500 against Messrs. Hall, the traders in gun-cotton, for having invited him to witness an experiment, and managing it so carelessly that an explosion took place, and he lost his sight.

Advices from Rio de Janeiro, to January 13, state that the yellow fever is prevailing to some extent in that city. The Prince, who was the next heir to the throne, died soon after the commencement of the new year.

The magistrates and town-council of the city of St. Andrew's have agreed, unanimously, to petition Parliament for the abolition of tests in the Scottish Universities.

The Earl of Haddington has returned to his tenants in the barony of Coldstream 15 per cent. upon their rents for the last half-year.

It is reported that near San Diego, at the head of the Gulf of California, an immense extent of the ruins of ancient buildings have been discovered, including temples, stone pyramids, &c., with hieroglyphics, the records of a great and civilised race of inhabitants who have vanished from the face of the earth.

A number of books and instruments for University College, which have arrived in this country by steamer from France, have been admitted free, by permission of the Lords of the Treasury.

The Peers of Scotland elected and chosen to sit and vote in the House of Peers in the present Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland—viz., the Right Hon. the Earl of Arlre and the Lord Blantyre, in the room of David Earl of Arlre and John Lord Colville, of Culross, deceased.

The Grand Council of Berne has just accorded letters of naturalization to Dr. Valentin, a Jew, a native of Breslau. This is the first Jew who ever obtained such rights in the German cantons of Switzerland.

A most melancholy event has just thrown one of the first families in the neighbourhood of Tetbury, near Bristol, into extreme affliction. The eldest daughter of Mr. Walter Paul, of Highgrove, after a dinner party given to some of the neighbouring families, retired to her room at about nine o'clock, feeling herself faint, and, by some accident, her dress caught fire. Before her cries could be heard she was so severely burnt that she expired on Sunday last.

London: Printed and published at the Office, 198, Strand, in the Parish of St. Clement Danes, in the County of Middlesex, by WILLIAM LITTLE, 198, Strand, at No. 198, Strand. SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1850.—SUPPLEMENT.